

# *The* CHRONICLE ARCHIVES

Spring, Summer, Autumn & Winter 2013  
Volume 70

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Goring United Reformed Church  
Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex.

# The CHRONICLE

Spring 2013



**We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all**  
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## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— We share a minister with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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## Worship in the Church Sanctuary

### Sundays

- 8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- 10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.  
- Family service monthly as announced  
- Junior Church with Crèche
- 6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

### Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room

# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 70 - No. 633      Spring 2013

## Front Cover

Top - New chairs were delivered in November for the Sanctuary and Little Chapel.

Bottom - Service of Carols by candle-light including the Guinness Book of Records, record breaking attempt. Unfortunately the record wasn't broken, but we did welcome in about 100 folk to enjoy the singing and to worship the coming Saviour.

## Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Summer CHRONICLE magazine is 1 May 2013

[www.thechronicle.org.uk](http://www.thechronicle.org.uk)



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## What is your definition of a miracle?

**Do miracles still occur, or are they just a relic of the past? Many news stories describe what some people believe are miracles happening in today's world.**



In the early part of 2009 A flock of birds flew into an airplane that had recently taken off from New York's LaGuardia Airport, shutting down both of the jet's engines in mid-air.

Yet pilot Chesley Sullenberger was able to guide the plane safely down for a landing in the Hudson River. All 150 passengers and five crew members survived, and people on ferry boats rescued them from the river. This famous event has come to be known as the "Miracle on the Hudson." Was it miraculous or just lucky?

There are many accounts of people recovering from fatal diseases or accidents and the headline usually contains the word 'Miraculous'. What makes a miracle? Ultimately, you need to decide for yourself. Any unexplainable event that raises your curiosity and inspires your awe may be miraculous to you if you believe that a 'supernatural' realm exists. People see miraculous images like the face of Jesus on a piece of toast. I am not so sure how beneficial that would be?

The top definition for "miracle" in the Dictionary is - "an extraordinary event manifesting divine intervention in human affairs." Sceptics say that miracles do not happen, because God does not exist – or if he does exist, why should the creator of the universe be bothered to intervene in people's lives. But believers say that miracles happen constantly as God does work in the world.

The most famous miracles are those that the Bible records in both the Old and New Testaments. Many people are familiar with accounts of biblical miracles, and some – such as the Old Testament's account of the Red Sea parting and the New Testament's report of Jesus' resurrection from the dead. They have been depicted in popular cultural media and feature films.

Some biblical miracles are dramatic; others are quieter, water into wine, but all are attributed to divine intervention. All have the same element in common – urging readers or hearers to trust God and to know that he cares for each and every person.



Daniel in the lions' den: Chapter six of the Old Testament book of Daniel records the story of how King Darius had the prophet Daniel thrown into a lions' den to punish Daniel for praying to God. King Darius returned to the lions' den the next morning and discovered that Daniel was unharmed. "My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions," Daniel tells the king in verse 22. Verse 23 declares that the reason God performed the miracle was "because he [Daniel] had trusted in his God."

The loaves and fish: Both the New Testament books of Matthew and Mark describe how Jesus fed many thousands of people using just several loaves of bread and a few small fish – all the food that the large crowd had available. Jesus says when deciding to perform this feeding miracle, "I have compassion for these people," and proceeds to take whatever they entrust to him to give them what they need in return.

Miracles are always beneficial and happen to encourage or restore an individual. I have heard so many testimonies of miracles people have shared with me; from a man surviving a terrible car crash to a very frail lady being 'somehow' helped up and down stairs so she could stay living in her home. People believe in miracles, I believe in miracles lets be open to see more.



There are listed in the Bible around 333 miracles, Jesus directly performed at least 35 of those miracles but we are still waiting for the last one ... for Him to come back to Earth for the 2nd time.

*Andrew Sellwood*

# Tuesday Fellowship

• Our first meeting of the session on 11 September was after our long Summer break. Unfortunately I wasn't present at that meeting as I had to visit my Dad in hospital.

I would like to thank Carole Culliss for writing about the next afternoon as I couldn't be there for that either. Carole wrote about Tony's visit who continued to tell us about his trip from Penzance to Paddington. He stopped in Plymouth so Tony shared a few historical notes with us.

The still cobbled old area is part 13th century and the harbour belongs to the Queen and has belonged to the Monarch since the 15th Century. When Tony was last in Plymouth there was a replica of one of the ships called The Nansuih that crossed the Atlantic with the Pilgrim Fathers.

He spoke of the intolerance of religious groups throughout history and how blessed we are in this country to worship as we wish.



Stopping at Cambourne station we got out and walked the short distance to see the statue of the great man himself - Richard Trevithick, the inventor of the passenger steam locomotive.

*Tony Trevithick*

*Photos provided by Tony*

Below: The Cornish Riviera Express hauled by a 70000 Britannia Class locomotive



Britannia Class locomotive on a 'Cathedrals Express' day trip to Sherbourne, Dorset.

Photo taken at Salisbury station in December 2012.

From Plymouth the railway follows the river to Ivy Ridge which is the station for Dartmoor

and the prison. The prison is near a small town called Princetown where Canon Doyle lived and was the inspiration for the book and film 'Hounds of the Baskerville'. Next came Totnes which has a separate platform from

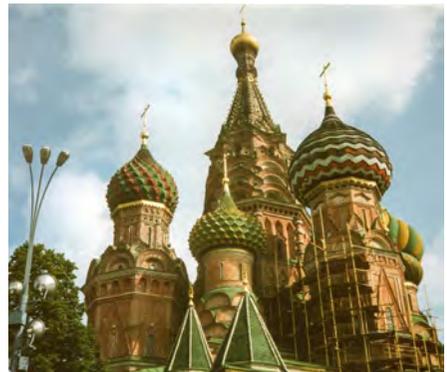
the main station where the steam train used to run. Finally on this part of the journey comes Newton Abbot which got its name from an old priory. This is a very busy junction with many lines. This reminded Tony of the many



- Carole told us about her 17 day coach trip 11 years ago which she had with her late husband. They started in Frankfurt, Germany. From there she travelled to Prague, Warsaw, Bellerose, Moscow, into Scandinavia and then back to Frankfurt.

She said that the coach driver was German and kept them in order apparently like a school teacher! The mixed age group was led by a guide from Croatia and he was also like a school teacher!

Above and below: The Kremlin  
Photos by Carole Culliss



Alison and her daughter in law, Gaby told us about Alison's trip to Mexico. Gaby's mother is an artist and had painted a picture of a volcano. We saw slides of the trip and they were interesting. From the air we saw a lovely cathedral. The cathedral and other buildings are really fantastic. Buses are fluorescent green colour. They are like trams. Inside the post office is amazing - very ornate.

The drivers in Mexico are a bit wild on the road, so much that our 'not brave' Alan won't drive in that country! We saw a statue of a Golden Angel which is used as a landmark. The most moving thing that Alison told us about

was when they were involved in an earthquake which was quite bad on the Richter scale and made Alison feel funny. An earthquake drill was in force and Alison had to lie on the ground with the others. We give thanks to God that Alison and Alan were unhurt and came back home safely. It was a very interesting afternoon.

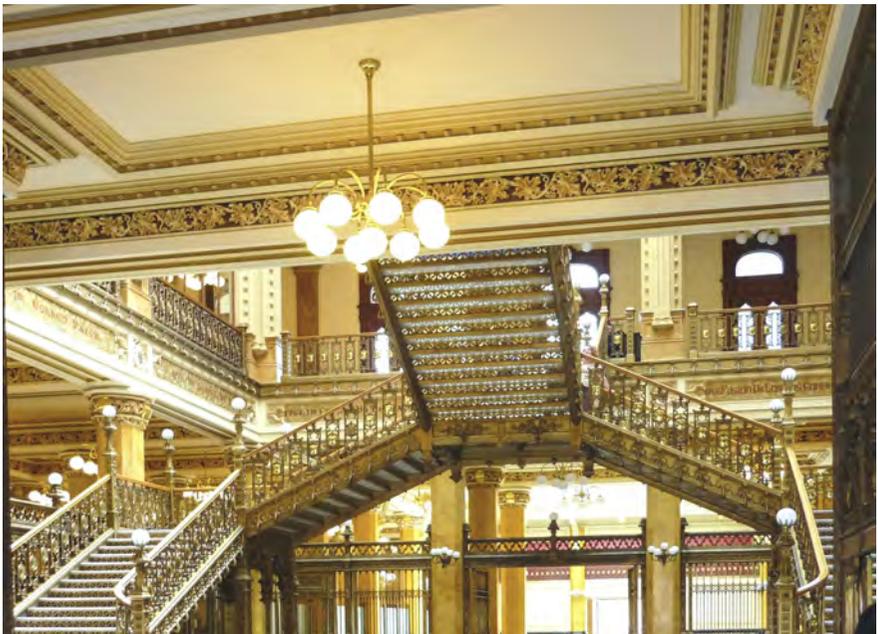
The last two meetings were one, a visit from Denise Elliott who told us about her visits to Romania, and then from James Bamber when we had an afternoon of Christmas reflections.

We returned to 'The Fellowship' on January 8th. *Janet Dean*



**Mexico City** Photos by Alan & Alison Westcott

Above: The impressive Cathedral in Zócalo square.  
 Right Above: The Main Post Office with a Fluorescent Bus  
 Right Below: The very ornate Post Office building.



## Articles for *The* CHRONICLE - Summer edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by either of the following ways —

1. E-Mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)
2. or by post to Graham Redman  
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

**The last day for the Summer Chronicle is 1 May 2013**

The Chronicle is also on line at [www.thechronicle.org.uk](http://www.thechronicle.org.uk)

### TODAY's MAGAZINES

Do you have a past-time, interest or hobby that you would like to write about for the *The* CHRONICLE ?

Have you visited another church or somewhere interesting recently, or have you been on a holiday that may be of interest to other readers?

You have until 1 May to send articles in for the Summer issue. So there is plenty of time — at the moment !!

Send to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)

### ARCHIVED MAGAZINES

*The* CHRONICLE is now available on line from the very first issue in 1944 to the present day.

All files are fully searchable using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

If you do not have a computer and would like something looked up in an old Chronicle, please speak to Graham Redman 01903 260568.

[www.thechronicle.org.uk](http://www.thechronicle.org.uk)

# Storms At Sea

**Matthew 8: 23-27** New International Version -

<sup>23</sup> Jesus got into the boat and his disciples followed him. <sup>24</sup> Suddenly a furious storm came up on the lake, so that the waves swept over the boat. But Jesus was sleeping. <sup>25</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, 'Lord, save us! We're going to drown!'

<sup>26</sup> He replied, 'You of little faith, why are you so afraid?' Then he got up and rebuked the winds and the waves, and it was completely calm.

<sup>27</sup> The men were amazed and asked, 'What kind of man is this? Even the winds and the waves obey him!'

This story of the storm is in all three of the synoptic gospels, that is - Matthew, Mark and Luke. They are called 'synoptic' because these gospels all take a similar view of Jesus. John's Gospel is very different in its 'feel'.

Anyway, there's Jesus in a boat. He must have been very tired to have slept during a noisy storm. If you read the previous verses you'll see that he had been very busy. The Sea or Lake of Galilee is in a basin surrounded by hills and mountains. The level of the lake is nearly 700 ft below sea level and the mountains rise to 4000ft above sea level, so the winds are funnelled down the narrow mountain passes from the Mediterranean, and storms and squalls can arise almost without notice.

Well, we had some notice of the storm we experienced recently. Eileen and I were on a Saga cruise in January and visited the Canaries, Morocco and Lisbon.

After Lisbon we were to spend two days at sea getting back to Southampton. The captain told everyone that there would be a bit of a storm - about force nine, and that's a strong gale, about 50 mph. But that night and the next day the Captain said that we had had a force 11 gale gusting to force 12, and force 12 is a hurricane at more than 75 mph!

It was rough!! We had to stay in our cabins the next day in case of injury to passengers, so the Captain felt we should put in to the Spanish port of Vigo for shelter otherwise we should experience the storm right across the Bay of Biscay. So we had an extra night on our holiday, which was fine for us but not so good for many others.

We usually set sail from ports in the early evening, and I was on deck to watch the pilot boat take off the pilot. A pilot always comes on board to see a large ship into port and again when the ship leaves port.

Having got out from the shelter of the port the sea was becoming rough again and the pilot's boat had to get alongside ours so that the pilot could jump off from a hatch near sea level onto his much smaller boat. It took some time to get his boat into just the right position for him to jump.

The captain explained all this later when he told us about the strength of the storm. We had faith in our

captain, and the ship. Perhaps some people were concerned, but we were not. He knew what he was doing and he said the ship was well able to weather such a storm. The crew, too, were completely experienced in this sort of weather. And would you believe it? The captain said the pilot's name was Jesus! And that brought to our minds that song we used to sing in Sunday School when we were children. I wonder if you know it?

Do you want a pilot?

Signal then to Jesus.

Do you want a pilot?

Bid him come on board

for he will safely guide

across the ocean wide

until you reach at last

your heavenly harbour.

So we had faith – have faith – in our Captain and Pilot.

When our sons were small Eileen used to sing that song to them; and our son Peter – now 46 – told us that he sang it to his girls when they were small. It's an old fashioned phrase, I know, but if you bring your children up in the "nurture and admonition of the Lord" then they may pass that on to their children. But it's the Lord that calls us, not we him, so sadly not all children follow their parents' faith. And why is this? It's one of the mysteries of our lives, and we shall not know the answer this side of eternity. But as Jesus was brought to the Temple for God's blessing, let us pray that our children and their children may be brought to the Lord.

Please don't think that our cruise was all storms – it wasn't. Around the Canaries temperatures were about 23°C. The highlights for me were our trips into Morocco – Agadir and Casablanca – but that's another story!

*Wilf Rhodes.*

# WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2.30pm  
Goring URC

'I WAS A STRANGER AND YOU WELCOMED ME' is the theme of this year's annual service of celebration, prepared for us by Christian women in France. A country close to home, where perhaps some of you have been on holiday, is not without its problems.

France, like other European countries, receives many asylum requests (51,900 in 2011). The presence of these people in the country both enriches the culture and can cause social difficulties. Behind each request, each statistic is the story of a life. Some of these stories will be shared in the service, which has a strongly French feel and flavour.

We are privileged to host the Goring service this year and ALL are welcome. Our speaker is the Revd. Dr. Hazel.

Come - and be part of a worldwide wave of prayer circling the globe from the first sunrise over the island of Samoa, sweeping through Asia, Africa, the Middle East and the Americas, until it comes to rest in American Samoa some 36 hours later. By then services will have taken place in over 170 countries.



Last year's WWDP service at English Martyrs Church

If you cannot manage the afternoon there are services in the morning at Broadwater and at 7.30pm in St. Symphorian's, Durrington Hill.

More details from Eileen Rhodes, Tel: 248263

## Action For Dysphasic Adults ADA [Worthing] Group

It is some time since I updated you with our news and activities but I am pleased to say that we are still going strong and are celebrating our 20th Anniversary this year, starting as we did with a super lunch at the Windsor House Hotel on January 16th. We have had a New Year lunch there for years – co-incidentally since 2003—another Anniversary!

Our numbers keep up, having had a few referrals from the Hospital: Sad for the Dysphasic victims but good that we are here to help them in any way we can. At our recent AGM we were happy to learn that the Officers and Volunteer Helpers are willing to continue with the truly sterling work they do for us. What would we do without them?

At our January group meeting we were delighted to welcome two new ladies – Pat whose husband was a Dysphasic member but who sadly died last year and Diana who not only helps Pat with the teas, but is an accomplished pianist! How lucky can you get?

When we started the group meetings in January 1993 the premises we used were totally unsuited to our needs, so imagine our joy when Joyce Taylor, our then Chairman and lynch-pin of the group at that time announced to the committee that; and I quote “ I have found this Wonderful Church in Goring, does anyone know of it?” to which my reply was “Yes I do – I’ve been part of the furniture there for years”. That was in September 1993. And twenty years on we are still here.

One note of sadness however. Last Autumn we were very sorry to hear of the death of our long-time Patron Admiral Sir Raymond Lygo. We first met Sir Raymond through his daughter Brooke Quinteros who was the Speech and Language Therapist at the Hospital when the ADA group was being planned and Brooke was designated to mastermind the setting up. She helped us in so many ways and missed her such a lot when her career took her in another direction.

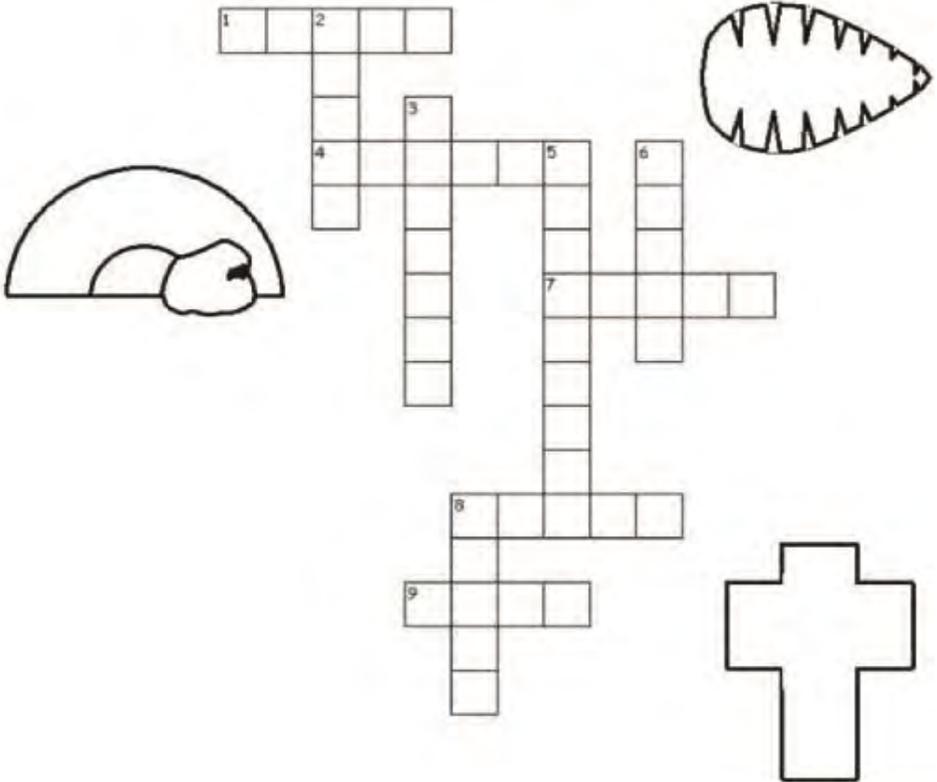
Her Father showed a keen interest in the group and was “over the moon” as they say when we asked him if he would become our Patron. He attended the AGMs and occasional functions as his commitments allowed.

A memorial Service for Sir Raymond was held in Chichester Cathedral. The ADA group was represented by our Chairman, Miss Barbara Tate who reported that it was a most moving Ceremony. A Worthy Tribute to a Well-Loved; Much-Respected man.

*Doreen Norris*

If you are under 14, you might be able to do this crossword.

## Easter Crossword



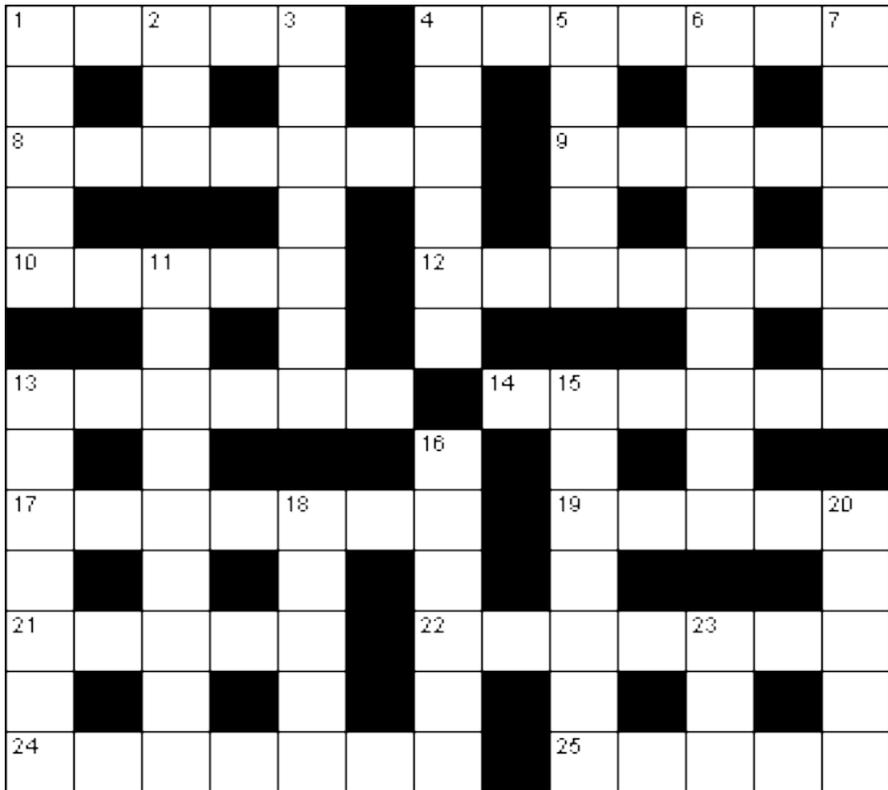
### Across

1. Taking this during the last supper symbolized Jesus' body.
4. Jesus was forced to wear a crown made of these instead of a crown made for a real king.
7. The angel told the women, 'Don't be afraid, Jesus isn't here, He is \_\_\_\_\_!
8. Instead of praying the disciples did this when Jesus went off to pray himself.
9. The main reason that God gave His only son, Jesus, to die for each of us.

### Down

2. On Sunday the two Marys didn't find Jesus, but a tomb that was \_\_\_\_\_
3. The word people shouted to Jesus that means blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
5. Jesus became the \_\_\_\_\_ for us, so we could be forgiven for our sins.
6. Jesus was meant to die on this.
8. This was put in front of the tomb

Solution on page 20



## Across

1. Prank (5)
4. Small community (7)
8. Everlasting (7)
9. Accolade (5)
10. Wear away (5)
12. Voter (7)
13. Alter or regulate (6)
14. Refuge (6)
17. Repossess (7)
19. Travel lodge (5)
21. Mound of stones used as a marker (5)
22. Sincere (7)
24. Latticework (7)
25. Herd or flock of animals (5)

## Down

1. Subject (5)
2. Frozen water (3)
3. Dog houses (7)
4. Smooth fabric (6)
5. Letting contract (5)
6. Flat (9)
7. Senior (7)
11. Target (9)
13. Fruit (7)
15. Stuck (7)
16. Hot fragments from a fire (6)
18. Declare invalid (5)
20. Supple (5)
23. Self (3)

Solution on page 20

## “Sails Set To The Breeze.”



When I was about sixteen years old, I painted the picture of a ‘Tall ship’ in full sail on a choppy sea. (Possibly my O Level Art picture.)

A little while ago, I needed to check on sails on sailing ships for a little story

and thought I would dig out my old picture. I found it. As it was a big picture painted with school watercolours on school cartridge paper, I had at some time, as it started to disintegrate, stuck it on to a bigger piece of stiffer paper in order to preserve it.

A tear had been mended. Unfortunately it was too late to avoid the Sellotape adhesive leaching through the paper, making a horrible mark that still remains. Over the years, the paper itself has gone from white to a light beige; dampness has stretched, shrunk and creased the paper and time has faded most of the colours of the painting, so that the blue of the sky and the white of the clouds is almost the same; the outlines of the sails have become indistinct; the shadows of one on the other have disappeared and the lighter lines of the rigging only just distinguishable.

I used a pencil to define some of the outlines – but not good enough!

Having found my poor old picture, I would like to restore it to its former glory.

So, how many masts are there? How many sails on each mast? What other sails are there in different places? How can I find the information I need?

I have never seen a real tall ship, so how did I manage to paint it? I know it was not from imagination; I must have copied it from somewhere. I spent an afternoon on the Internet looking at hundreds of pictures of clippers and schooners. I found many similar. I found the information I wanted: it was a clipper, but I could not find the exact picture.

Right! Where did I find the picture in order to copy it? We had all sorts of books and reference books, which might have provided it – and I have a large number of them still. I remembered one set of encyclopedias that had special frontispieces. There

were twelve of them. (Remember the old 'Wonderland of Knowledge?') I started looking through them. No...! No...! No...!

YES! Here it is! In full sail and full colour, here is the clipper on the high seas, a watercolour painting by Ellis Luciano Silas. The caption says: "Unfortunately for lovers of beauty, this type of sailing ship has been largely replaced by steam-driven vessels. This is the iron ship 'Maquarie,' a boat of 1857 tons, which was originally called the 'Melbourne.' It was launched in 1875, and carried more passengers than any previous clipper."

I found out a good deal about the artist, 1883-1972, whose main interest was in marine art and painted English coastal towns before sailing for Australia in 1907. He joined the Australian Imperial Force in 1914, fought at Anzio and was later commissioned as an official War Artist. He fought with the 16<sup>th</sup> Battalion on Pope's Hill at Anzac Cove and painted pictures of soldiers on roll call. He returned to England in 1925 where he stayed working until his death.

He had several exhibitions in London; had a private audience with the King; illustrated the book 'Honour and the Foreign Legion' in 1927; spent about three years in Papua New Guinea, producing many delicate studies of native life.

He was employed as a propaganda artist in World War II and produced many posters, thought possibly to include 'Keep Calm and Carry On.' He continued to work post war and made posters for BR.

He also painted several pictures of Weymouth. Some of his marine pictures are kept in the National Maritime Museum.

Now, with all this information, both factual and pictorial, do I paint over the original, or trace it on to another piece of paper and colour that, or shall I start on a new copy? Or is life too short to be mending and remaking many things?

My picture is not a masterpiece in its own right. It is an imperfect copy of a picture painted by someone else. Should I spend time restoring it, when I could put my time to creating something original of my own? It is all too worn, faded, fragile and weak. Would I only be 'putting new wine into old bottles', or 'darning the holes in old socks?' It must surely be better to use what has been learned in the past years to make something new - something that might last and still give pleasure after another 60+ years.

How much like a worn and weary spirit this old piece of paper with its faded lines appears! Applying some of these thoughts to personal life and work, one of the verses of the hymn by Elizabeth Head (1850-1936) that we sang in January seems to fit:

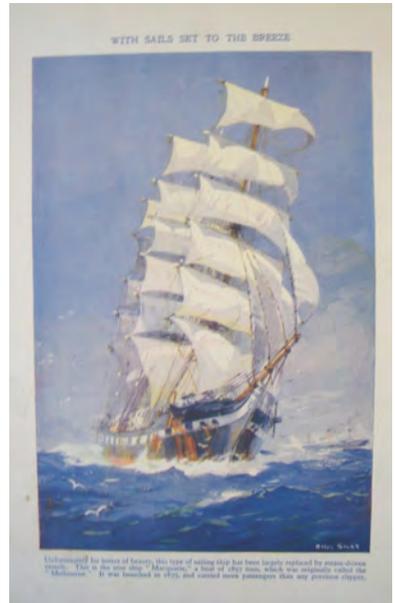
' O Breath of Life, come sweeping through us,  
Revive Your Church with life and power,  
O Breath of life, come, cleanse, renew us,  
And fit Your Church to meet this hour.

O Breath of Love, come breathe within us,  
Renewing thought and will and heart,  
Come, Love of Christ, afresh to win us,  
Revive Your Church in every part.

O Wind of God, come bend us, break us  
Till humbly we confess our need;  
Then, in Your tenderness remake us,  
Revive, restore – for this we plead.

Revive us Lord, is zeal abating  
While harvest fields are vast and white?  
Revive us, Lord, the world is waiting –  
Equip Thy Church to spread the light.'

*Mary Connelly. Spring, 2013.*



# A Piggy Tale

Can I have pigtails in my hair?  
said Claire.



A bristly pig pricked up his ear,  
In fear.

Girls should stick to bows and curls  
and not take little piggy furls.



A pony tail is quicker.  
Piggy's eyes began to flicker.



I had rats tails yesterday.  
Piggy lost his words to say.



Would you like a bun?  
Piggy thought, with cherries on.



Then Clair jumped off her chair,  
Plaits woven in her hair, said



aren't my pigtails wild.  
And bristly piggy softened  
To a sheepish smile.



*Marianne Barber*

## PALM CROSSES

Have you ever wondered where the palm cross you receive on Palm Sunday came from?

Our church orders them from the Zulem Trust, based in Northampton, but they are made and packed by 80 workers in Nongoma to support the work of the Anglican Church in the Diocese of Zululand, South Africa. But the palm cross is more than that:

- It is a food bowl supporting two feeding projects for orphans
- It is a clothing voucher and a school fee for a grandmother supporting her orphaned grandchildren

- It is a brick and a bag of cement for families who lost their homes through fire
- It is a cabbage for a new garden project bringing income to support the community. It is a 'dog collar', a bursary to assist women ordinands in their theological studies.

So when you hold the palm cross in your hand on Palm Sunday (24<sup>th</sup> March) please pray for the work of the Zulem Trust here in England and in Nongoma.

Who thought you could hold so much in your hand?

*Eileen Rhodes*

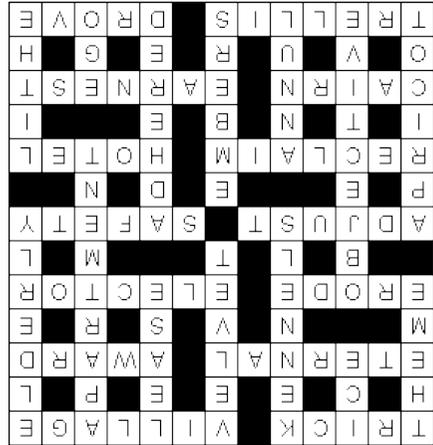
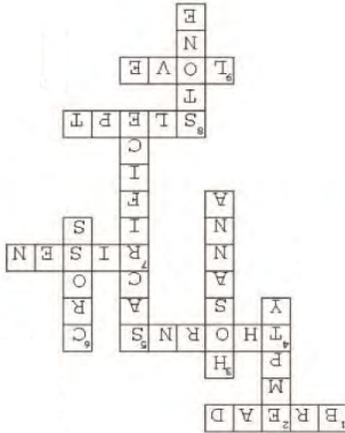
## Not the Rabbit-Hole

I bought a box of chocolate bunnies  
To send to my daughter, Genny.  
One hopped into my mouth,  
Then another, they would not stop.  
All eight bunnies went  
Hop, hop, hop, hop, hop, hop, hop, hop,  
Into my mouth.

Poor Genny.  
There aren't any  
Bunnies in the box.  
What shall I tell Genny?  
I know -  
There was a fox.

*Marianne Barber*

## Solution to the Crossword Puzzle on pages 13 & 14



# Property Management Group

## Advanced Building Plans

The group have been re-visiting the building plans and ideas for the future which were brought to Church meeting after our survey a little over 12 months ago. After discussion at Elder's meeting it is anticipated that the results of the discussions will be brought to the Church meeting on the 28th February.

## Harris Room Toilet

The January Church Meeting agreed that work should proceed to form a new toilet for the Harris Room.

[Situated at bottom of slope]

## Communion Glasses

Please can we all be especially careful of the glasses after communion services. They are quite vulnerable in the tops of the new chairs until the holes can be made slightly larger - the glasses should then sit lower in the holes.

*Graham Redman*



## Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Table Tennis	Tuesday & Friday Mornings
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

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**The CHRONICLE**

[www.thechronicle.org.uk](http://www.thechronicle.org.uk)

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)





## Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

*We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all*



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

# The CHRONICLE

Summer 2013



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all  
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## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— We share a minister with St Andrew's, Rustington —

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## Worship in the Church Sanctuary

### Sundays

- 8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- 10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.  
- Family service monthly as announced  
- Junior Church with Crèche
- 6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

### Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room

# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 70 - No. 634 Summer 2013

## Front Cover

Something that we don't see much of here at Goring URC -

A wedding like this one !!

Sharon Ruvimbo Shava and  
Tafadzwa Terrence Tafura.

We had seating in the church for over 200, and people were standing. Then extra chairs were brought in from the halls and people were still standing! Folk were outside enjoying the warm sunshine – something else we don't see much of !

## Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Autumn CHRONICLE magazine is 1 August 2013

[www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online/](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online/)

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# Our trip to Australia

**Rev Andrew Sellwood**

**You may not know this, but Jill and I went to Australia earlier this year.**

Whilst there I began to observe things from a different perspective. Like many of us I am constantly amazed at God's creation – it's awesome and so intricate. So this article goes to recall a few thoughts along this theme.

Initially I became fascinated by the sky – it was so big and so blue. Perhaps that sounds a strange thing to say? I was drawn to the stark image of the tall ancient ghost gum trees reaching up in to the intense ultramarine sky. It was as if the twisted leafless branches were reaching up striving to touch heaven. I was frequently reminded to take photos of people not trees.

Another amazing sight was revealed after the sun had passed through a blood red sunset and the dark night arrived.

There set against the obsidian void were revealed millions, perhaps billions of stars and the misty arc of the milky way flecked with pinks and blues of gas clouds and haze of restless nebula.

Back in the UK with all the light pollution you only get to see a fraction of what is out there. The sight was really so amazing I attempted to take a few photos but was too interested in just looking. The more you looked the more you could see. Of course the constellation of the Southern Cross was pointed out with great pride.



'The Milky Way flecked with pinks and blues'.

Whilst in the rain forest area of North Queensland we went on a fishing trip down a mangrove swamp estuary. With hind sight not the best idea, it rained (well it was the rain forest). The mangrove swamp exhibits a primitive and extreme existence. Its trees push down copious looping roots into the shifting mud.

They are like fingers grasping for life on the shifting substrate. Populating the dense pea green waters were, as you would expect, fish. They are not your average friendly kind of Nemo type fish; most have huge spines, are poisonous or clad in really ugly thick armoured scales.

Top of the food chain are the crocodiles, yes we saw a large one a few feet away from our rather frail boat. There was a brief pause in the rain and the sun came out. By now our insect repellent had been washed off and we found ourselves instantly covered with small black flies.



Crocodile: top of the food chain

In England on a summer evening you sometimes see Thunder bugs, tiny black flies, do you know the critters I mean? – In the mangrove swamp they have similar small black flies. However, the name for these is 'biting midges' or the faux Latin term *pesky-no-see-ums*. They are so small (just 2 mm long) and insignificant but they can wreak so much damage, I still have the scars. Incidentally it's only the females that bite. Everything living here in this ecosystem

seems extreme and well designed for survival perhaps with the exclusion of us humans. Oh and the mangrove crabs - they look like crabs with claws and a shell but their shell is made of a thin leathery skin, very soft, and apparently God has made them to be very tasty. They are forced to seek their protection not from a shell but from living in the mangrove root system, they stay close and eat the burrowing molluscs that can cause damage to the tree.

The more you look around the more you are reminded that every creature depends on every other creature. There is a plan, there is a reason. The one who designed all this had a great plan but sometimes we don't understand it, why did he make biting midges?! Seriously, as humans we really don't take the time to understand God's world; we try to change it and improve it with disastrous

results.

OK the mangrove area was a bit of a problem but the mountain rain forest that was different. Under the vast canopy of trees lies another world. It is populated by colourful and exotic creatures. Lush and vibrant vegetation a constant sound of chatter and communication.



Set within the heart of the forest is Kuranda village originally an aboriginal community with a contradictory message. In an art gallery/cultural centre were some poignant paintings and testimonies describing the terrible situation in the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

During this time the church and state forcibly removed children from aboriginal families and institutionalised them in order to make them 'respectable' human beings instead of savages. This is referred to as the time of the Stolen Generations. Naturally this action has caused so much grief and heartache it is still remembered.



As we left the gallery we noticed a church opposite, a neat Victorian timber clad building. Outside it was an instantly recognisable Alpha course poster and an invitation for people to come and know the love of Christ. It is a great shame that love wasn't shown a hundred years ago! I hope we Christians have really changed. In 1998 the church made a public apology to the Indigenous people, the state government released its apology in 2008.

I think; I hope the church has learned valuable lessons from those many disasters of the past and that we no longer dictate and impose our doctrine. Instead as an authentic Christ centred church we should attract and welcome those who are searching for truth. It seems we are re-learning to depend on the Holy Spirit to direct and influence our missionary endeavours.

My trip to Australia made me think about many issues. It reminded me that things there seemed similar but on closer inspection were so very different. It all goes to underline the diverse and complex pattern of Gods creative way.

Most amazing of all the water goes anticlockwise down the plug hole!

*Andrew Sellwood*

# TRIBUTES TO MICHAEL BAYLEY

5 October 1937 — 24 April 2013

## From Caroline Hibbs -

'Come on and celebrate' not the first chorus that would come to mind at a funeral but at a wonderful Service of Thanksgiving it most certainly is! It was Michael's choice and he said that the service was not to be gloomy. It was a fantastically joyful, poignant and moving occasion.

I came to know Mike and Rosina well when they joined the fellowship group I go to and immediately they became a strong part; they both have an inspiring faith in our Lord and when he became ill it was obvious Mike's faith and that of Rosina's kept them strong.



I loved listening to Mike read the bible he read in such precise way that the most difficult text was understandable.

He was a lovely man who is now at peace and out of his pain. We will miss him in the group and thank God that we were privileged to know him.

## David Cleveland, a friend of Michael's since childhood ...

It was with much sadness that I learnt of Mike Bayley's passing. I knew Mike as a cricketer, fellow schoolboy, student, national serviceman, old school banker and fellow pensioner. We didn't live in each other's pockets, but were more comfortable as friends, who kept in touch and were there in case of need.

In the Spring 2011 edition of your church magazine, Mike gave a résumé of his early years as a schoolboy

growing up in Durham. Then with the war over, Mike's family moved down south to South East London where they finished up living next door to Geoff an old friend of mine.

Mike was a welcome arrival as we played occasional three or four a side test matches in Sunray Gardens and an extra fielder was always welcome, particularly an uncomplaining one who showed himself to be a useful straight bat.

Our paths crossed again when through the vagaries of the 11+ system Mike and I finished up at Alleyn's School. We were never in the same class, but would both have had Michael Croft for English and Mr Reece for Maths in the 'Tin Tab' on the edge of the quad. Mike also undoubtedly watched Micky Stewart (later Surrey & England) and John Pretlove (Kent) playing cricket for the 1<sup>st</sup> eleven on Big Side.

We both left in due course and went to rival banks. Then over the years we studied for our banking exams together, at night school, at Victoria and West Norwood. Both our careers were interrupted by spells of National Service, and we shared a month of 'basic training' at Devizes acclimatising to (very) short haircuts and the immense respect accorded to our drill sergeants.

Then time passed with marriage and family ties. I can remember having lunch at the Midland Bank in Kingsway but contact was rare and the years were marked mainly with the exchange of Christmas cards as our careers went in different directions. Then on retirement from the Bank, Kip and I found it easy to succumb to the rigours of gardening and the occasional game of golf. But Mike (typically) became involved in the Cheshire Homes Charity as a Bursar. I am sure they found Mike an enormous asset; he had a wealth of experience and was always prepared to go the extra mile to ensure things were just right.

Over the years there are a lot of people whose lives have been made a little easier through Mike's unsung efforts, he will be sadly missed.

---

### **... and from Peter, Mike and Rosina's elder son.**

**These words were part of Peter's talk during the thanksgiving service.**

'Dad was a Banker, his Dad was a Banker, his Grandad was a Banker, his brother was a Banker, his Auntie was a Banker – You get the idea?

What made it even a little more extreme was that they all worked for Midland Bank (now of course HSBC).

When I was in my last years at secondary school and I had Careers Advisers suggesting all the different careers I could follow, I can remember looking at them a bit sadly and thinking – you guys don't get it all do you – I am a BAYLEY - we work for Midland Bank – which of course inevitably I did for a time.

There were some downsides to this of course - Our family Christmas dinners could occasionally

turn into something akin to a Midland Bank managers meeting – BUT this was so much of our lives that it almost was part of Christmas – and Dad loved it all.



I can also say that management of money, together with process and reconciliation systems was always a core part of what Dad did and enjoyed and frankly was very good at.

One of the rotten jobs you have to do as a Banker is sort out Bank accounts after someone dies.

It can be messy and painful and sometimes causes lots of grief because if most money is tied up in the sole name of the deceased, the UK legal system requires us to freeze the funds until after the will is confirmed.



When I started to pull his affairs together, I found he had moved everything he needed to into Mums name and the one sole account he had left open had just gone £2 overdrawn.

I genuinely couldn't have asked for better organization, and I think it would have tickled Dad at how well he had worked out the finances.'

Peter, went on to talk about Michael's hobbies and interests - his pistol shooting, dinghy sailing, and cooking skills, his holidays, DIY, and taking things apart. Of course he had his work in the church and putting his accountancy skills to good use.

He was one of the first to buy a freezer and a microwave cooker, and cooking the Christmas pudding to charcoal. He bought food in bulk as it was more cost effective!



Peter concluded his talk with the following words -

'When I look at my family today, I can but conclude that Dad, hasn't really gone, is certainly not forgotten, but is sadly missed.

Thank you all for joining us in celebrating his life today.'

## The Arundel Church Silver

Three years ago I described our Communion Silver, its date and its origin at one of our Holy Communion services. One of our visiting ministers has shown an interest in our 'silver' just recently, which reminded me of my small research in 2009.

So I thought members and friends might like to refresh their memories.

It's very appropriate to remember the actual 'instruments' that we use at every Holy Communion service. The nuts and bolts of our Communion Service, the actual hardware.

Very occasionally we have the silver jug on the table as well as the chalice, though we don't usually use the jug, though it may be used when a single cup is passed around. The silver service that we use – the chalice, jug and two plates – came to us from Trinity Chapel Congregational church in Arundel. The date on the silver is 1843, but the church was founded in 1780 and closed in 1983, and it was then that we received the Communion set.

At Westminster College in Cambridge are the archives of the Congregational, Presbyterian and Church's of Christ churches, with handbooks of our churches going back to 1848. Fascinating!! So when I was there on a Lay Preachers' Course I looked up some dates and details about Trinity Chapel, as I thought it would be good to think about the people behind our Communion silver.

The minister at the time this was given to the Arundel church was Rev J Ashby – I wonder if he was an ancestor of Margaret? – and there were seats for 250 people. In 1927 there were only 57 members, and in 1942 they were joined with Amberley Congregational church, and they had seats

for 120, but only 10 members. It all became Arundel Union Church in 1967, and then the minister was Rev Desmond Bending, some might remember that name. He was still there in 1982 but marked "pro tem", and there were 15 members.

So this silver – which is actually a silver plate of some sort – came to us in 1983, 30 years ago. Then, Mr Connelly was our minister, we had 357 members, 96 children, and 14 teachers, and Ray Newell was our Church Secretary.

The Arundel church was open for just over 200 years, before closing, and our silver is 170 years old. When you see Jane Austen plays or similar on the television, think of Arundel Congregational Church, and realise that then it was in it's 'hey-day'. Though the church faded slowly away and eventually died, many hundreds of Christian souls worshipped there over the years. Therefore, since so great a cloud of witnesses surrounds us, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely.

And in the words of "The Message":-

'Do you see what this means—all these pioneers who blazed the way, all these veterans cheering us on? It means we'd better get on with it. Strip down, start running—and never quit! No extra spiritual fat, no parasitic sins. Keep your eyes on Jesus, who both began and finished this race we're in. Study how he did it. Because he never lost sight of where he was headed—that exhilarating finish in and with God—he could put up with anything along the way: Cross, shame, whatever. And now he's there, in the place of honour, right alongside God. When you find yourselves flagging in your faith, go over that story again, item by item, that long litany of hostility he ploughed through.

That will shoot adrenaline into your souls!  
 Amen! *Wilfred Rhodes*

## KESTRO trip to BENTLEY

I have never considered myself a poet. I have, on the odd occasion, scribbled a few lines in verse, in birthday cards. Nobody has complained, few have even noticed. I did invite eight of my former colleagues to celebrate my latest birthday. I managed to get the invitation into rhyme. Nobody took any notice. Maureen thinks I am mad whenever she sees me with pen and paper, scribbling! So you can imagine my delight when I learned that one of my poetic verses had proved to be successful in a competition.

It all started one Friday afternoon towards the end of February. A KESTRO member drew our attention to an entry in the Worthing Herald. It was in the form of a competition. The prize was a coach supplied by Worthing Coaches, together with a driver, for a day, to be taken before 30th April. The entry with the best information about their club and reason for seeking to have the coach, would be the winner.

Maureen thought seriously about calling in the men with white coats as I sat up in bed, scribbling. One sheet of foolscap was torn up, then another. The third one stayed intact and I sent it off. The poem was my entry for KESTRO.

Maureen and I went away for a couple of days. Upon our return was the telephone message telling me my efforts had been rewarded. Then the panic started. Although the original idea was to go to Drucillas, the committee decided that the venue would not afford sufficient cover in the event of inclemency.

So, Bentley was decided upon. Also the date was fixed.

There is always a downside and, in this case, it was that the coach did not have a wheel chair lift and those unable to climb the steep steps would be unable to come. However, I contacted all those members who were very understanding. It did, however, leave us with a short fall in numbers, which is why I was able to open the trip to church people and four came along.

So, on Friday 26th April, a smart Worthing Coach and driver pulled up outside the church. It took an age to get loaded, not least because a very bossy female photographer took loads of pictures. We were away shortly after 10.30 a.m. What rain there had been, stopped and we sat back and enjoyed the ride. About 50 minutes later we arrived and as soon as we were off the coach, most headed for the tea rooms. Then off to see the ducks and geese, of all shapes, colours and sizes and the resident peacock gave a full display.



The car and motor cycle museum was a hit with most as was the house which has oriental artefacts.



More tea room exercise then back out to see the wood carvings and for Peggy to have a slide in the play and adventure park. I thought someone would have a go on the ropes, but there were no takers.

At 3.30p.m. we all clambered aboard our free coach and wended our way home. I think everybody enjoyed the day and had a good time.

One of the great things about KESTRO is the fact that we, as a committee, work as a team. It is therefore, the more enjoyable. I am indebted to all our committee and helpers who make the system work and work well.

It would be a mistake to say, 'everything is wonderful', because we are always in need of car drivers to pick up those members who need transport assistance. If you can help, or know someone who might, on occasion, be able to assist please let us know.

When we arrived back home I again wrote, in verse to say thank you. You should find both poems printed here. When you need to enter a competition do not call me for a rhyme. *Vic Joy*



Which Kestro member decided to do a spot of repair work !!

We decided to go to Bentley, to see all the birds,  
 It really was a wonderful day and so hard to put into words,  
 Our coach and its driver arrived on the dot  
 All spruce and ready to take on our lot  
 of 39 KESTRO members and friends  
 prepared for a jaunt, to buck all the trends.  
 After photos we struggled to get all on board  
 but soon we were jolly and with one accord.  
 The rain stopped, the sun shone, to Bentley we came,  
 All into the tearoom, it was such a game,  
 Then out to the birds, the peacocks display  
 was better than ever you'd see any day  
 The ducks and the geese, the museum too,  
 Rounding up KESTRO was a right howdy do.  
 So home we did saunter with our driver Bill,  
 All happy, gay, travellers who I am sure will  
 give three cheers to Worthing Coaches and say,  
 Thank you so much for a glorious day.

You go to the Stroke Club on Friday, just after two,  
 because you're a stroke survivor, for friendship that's what you should do.

Some workouts or games are provided , and, in addition to that  
 you get to meet people just like you have tea, a cake and a chat.

When the weathers' a little bit better  
 we're taken on outings and treats,  
 as many as 40 are taken  
 whoever can fill all the seats.

So we're certain to fill your transport  
 and visit Drucillas all day.  
 The trip we'd enjoy, but the best bit, oh boy,  
 Is for us not having to pay!!!

# Tuesday Fellowship

Our first meeting after Christmas was the New Year party on 8th January.

There was lots of lovely food. Bobby, Doreen, Joan, Carole, Peggy and Alison all took part. A happy afternoon was had by all.

The next meeting included a visit from Geoffrey Runacres. He played some music from the days when people had good voices - a Billy Cotton song. We heard some Wurlitzer music and a song from 1928. We had a quiz. The first one I didn't know the answer to, but the second I remembered the tune but had forgotten what it was called. Most of you will know the prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. I know it better as the song 'Make me a channel of your peace', - an instrumental version was played.

This gentleman is known to me from my days at Caer Gwent but I only found out about this quiet Geoffrey on his visit to us, and that he was in the George Mitchell singers, later to become the Black and White Minstrels. Geoffrey played 2 CDs by the George Mitchell Singers and he sang along to one of them. I could see how well he would have fitted in with the Singers. It was a lovely afternoon.

Matthew and Wilma visited us for our next meeting. That was a lovely afternoon too, as they shared with us their visit to Buckingham Palace on 22 May 2012. As you can imagine it was quite a surprise for Wilma to receive this invitation from the Palace with her full name.

This was reported in a previous Chronicle so I won't cover what has already been said, however, we did see the outfits they actually wore, and they both looked very nice.

They also showed us a DVD of the afternoon which showed how the gardens are prepared to encourage the birds. There was a traditional afternoon tea after-which the Queen came out, and to announce her presence—the National Anthem. A few people were selected for her to speak to. Unfortunately Matthew and Wilma didn't get that opportunity. The weather was lovely on the day and it was an unforgettable experience for Matthew and Wilma and I think it is well deserved and am pleased they had it and enjoyed the occasion.

Our next meeting was a 'members afternoon'. Bobby read a Pam Ayres style poem which was good. Carole Cullis read from a book by Jean Metcalfe. Joan Finley read a poem written by a friend of hers who started writing as a young child. Peggy read two poems. Bobby with her sweet singing voice sang us a song about Jesus in the garden. Doreen read out one of her scenes of Jesus times from the point of view of someone watching the scene.

We finished with tea, hot cross buns and chocolate eggs.

More in the Autumn Chronicle.

*Janet Dean*

## The Church Website: [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

Our Church website has seen many changes over the last 12 months, so if you haven't paid us a visit recently it is well worth doing so soon.



### Some of the changes are :-

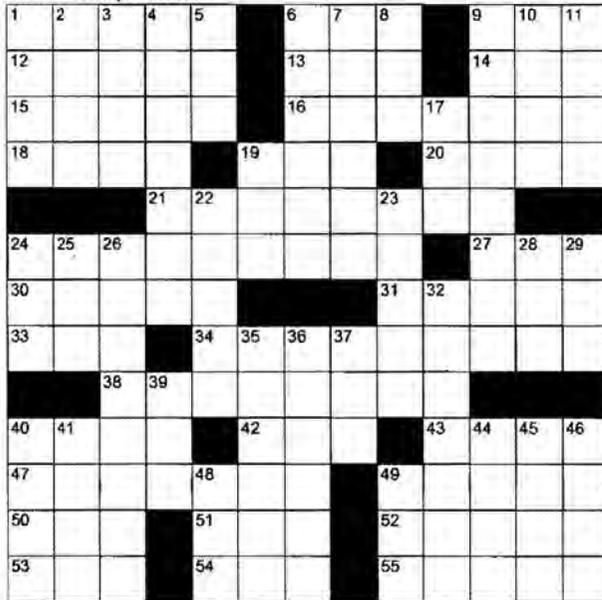
1. The design and layout to the front page.
2. The minister has written a welcome note.
3. **Worship & Services:** All sermons are now recorded, with a link to Bible Readings and the Welcome sheet.
4. Who's leading the service Sunday by Sunday.
5. A list of Weekday Activities.
6. Information about this Church, Baptisms, Weddings, Membership, including a facility to print leaflets on these subjects.
7. What's on during weekdays.
8. Information about special events - i.e. Festival of Light, Christmas etc.
9. Publications: Chronicles - current and archived issues back to 1944.
10. Library Index - in the course of preparation.
11. Separate sections for a. Members and b. Friends: includes a Webcam.
12. Information re Hall Hiring.

### The purpose of the website is two-fold:

1. As our window to the world - Outreach, and
2. A tool for ourselves providing much information.

Please let Ryan or me know should you find anything that needs correcting, Also please, do let us know of any changes or additions to dates. One last point: —  
If you find it difficult to login, please speak to Ryan or me. *Graham Redman*

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**ACROSS**

1. Legendary stories
6. Uno
9. Pig's pad
12. Box
13. Business VIP
14. Pitching stat
15. Church walkway
16. Burst of bad temper
18. California wine valley
19. Make lace
20. Epochs
21. Caveman's era (2 wds.)
24. Concurrence
27. Time past
30. \_\_\_ Witherspoon of

"Sweet Home  
Alabama"

31. Had
33. And so forth (abbr.)
34. Proposed as a candidate
38. Renovator
40. Pub drinks
42. Shade
43. Stood up
47. Childhood disease
49. Golfer \_\_\_ Woods
50. Bathroom rug
51. Tax org.
52. \_\_\_ eclipse
53. Lyric verse
54. Compass dir.

55. Printing machine

**DOWN**

1. Skim over
2. Opera solo
3. Struggle for breath
4. Books of maps
5. Behold
6. Gasoline classification
7. Tidy up
8. Chunk of eternity
9. Military rank
10. Faithful
11. Sweet potatoes
17. Children's game
19. Actor \_\_\_ Hanks
22. Adolescents
23. Make amends
24. Common verb
25. Acquire
26. Make again
28. Goodness!
29. Strange
32. Soldier
35. Additional ones
36. Styling foam
37. Wrath
39. Highway curve
40. Military supplies
41. Show the way
44. Leer
45. Oceans
46. Miscalculates
48. Recline
49. Recipe unit (abbr.)

*Solution on page 28*

## Rev William Connelly, minister of this Church from 1974–1991 celebrates 60 years in the ministry on 4 July this year

### Pre Ministry:-

William served in the Royal Navy:	1945 - 1948
Attended Lancashire Independent College:	1948 - 1953
Student Pastor Ebenezer Congregational Church,	1950 - 1953

### Ministry:-

Ordained and inducted. Ebenezer Congregational Church.	1953 - 1957
Newport Congregational Church, Salop,	1957 - 1964
Friary Cong/URC Church, West Bridgford, Nottingham,	1964 - 1974

This was a large church and congregation, with Scouts, Guides and Youth Clubs. William was active in Hospital Chaplaincy, worked with The Samaritans on night duty, began a study of social life in Nottingham, and started a club for lonely people. He also broadcast frequently on Radio Nottingham, and a Sunday Morning Service was broadcast on Television while still doing lots of Pastoral visiting.

... and then of course here in Goring until he retired from full time ministry of the United Reformed Church in November 1991 making him the longest serving minister at this church.



GURC, another large church and congregation, with a large amount of Pastoral visiting required.

William was active in Ecumenical work in Goring, a Chaplain of Swandean Hospital, a Founder member of Durrington Outreach Church, a member of St. Barnabas Hospice Committee, and a Governor of Worthing Sixth Form College.

### Rev William Connelly with his team of elders in 1974.

Back row from L-R: Norman Dobson, Ted Winstanley, Eric Popplestone, Bill Perrett, Roy Web, Lilah Harris, John Blakey, Connie Gill, Colin Nodes, Arthur Razzell, Freda Calsteren, Douglas Moony, Ralph Beale, Charles Stephens. Front row: Eric Bond, William Connelly, Norman Redman.

He was a frequent visitor and speaker at local schools. Though he did not join any outside social or official groups, there were many Community events in the church, at which he officiated.

He completed his Manchester University thesis through the University of Nottingham, gained M.Phil. in 1998.

The subject for his thesis was the life & teaching of little known Dora Greenwell, and this work was the basis of his book 'Et Teneo Et Teneor'.

After his retirement, he took the occasional wedding and funeral and Maundy Thursday service. Since a major illness, he does a lot of reading, sleeping, and watching T.V., and for a few years was joined in those 'activities' by our cuddly cat, Ginger.

**Like to read more ?** Then pick up a paper on the table at the back of the church or his book in the Dean Library.

*Mary Connelly*



After four years studying for Associate Membership of the Royal College of Organists, Geoffrey Redman, is presented with his well earned diploma at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday 9 March.

Some may remember Chris Chatfield who went through our Junior Church some years ago.

He is the brother of Ruth, serving in the Congo, and Michael who lives near Birmingham.

Chris and Trish [Patricia] Best were married on May 2013 at Cornerstone Church, Swansea, driving off in a horse and carriage.

They now live in Worthing.



# The Organist's Cacti

When I was about six years old, my Dad gave me a cutting of one of his cacti and ever since then I have been growing cacti. After a prickly start my collection grew and now I have over one hundred plants. Given the right conditions, these fascinating plants will put on a stunning floral display from mid to late May, when the first flowers start to bloom until about September. The flowers of one particular species of Echinopsis that I have, open for the first time at night and fill the greenhouse with sweet perfume.

## Cactus Facts:

- ◆ All cacti are succulents but not all succulents are cacti.
- ◆ Prickly Pear (*Opuntia ficus-indica*) fruits can be made into juice, syrup, jam, jelly or even ice cream.
- ◆ Cacti have been used as musical instruments - notably in a piece written by John Cage .
- ◆ Some species of Cacti are completely spineless
- ◆ Peyotl (*Lophophora williamsii*) was chewed by the Aztecs for its hallucinogenic properties and allowed the shamen to enter a trance.
- ◆ The Gila Woodpecker, makes its home in the Saguaro Cactus .  
(*Carnegiea gigantea*)

*Geoffrey Redman*



Notocactus Roseoluteus



Ferocactus with red spines



Gila Woodpecker



Prickly Pear Syrup

# Forget Me Not



On the day Fiona, my daughter, was getting married in Los Angeles, I walked through what seemed to be the sudden reflection of the blue sky at the bottom of the garden. At the moment, that blue is still there, though the sky is grey, the wind blows and the rain has been lashing against the windowpane. The words 'Forget-Me Not' were very apt that day and the memories still come, thick and beautiful, like the flowers.

The day Fiona was born in Shropshire had been rather uncomfortable for me. For several hours I had been suffering increasing levels of pain. The two older children, (who had been home deliveries) were 'farmed out' to be cared for, and by evening the time had come for me to be off from Newport to the hospital in Wellington.

Unfortunately, William had a previous engagement - a deacons'

meeting – that he felt obliged to grace with his presence. He sent me off to the hospital in the car and care of one of the deacons. Heber Hughes, a true Welsh/Shropshire farmer, who, extremely nervous of the in-labour situation, was tempted to run every red traffic light we had the misfortune to encounter.

He was afraid that he would have to pretend I was a sheep and that he would have to treat me ewe-like and deliver the lamb!

However, we reached the hospital in good time and not long after, I was safely delivered of this beautiful baby girl. William made a brief visit after his meeting and went off the next day to 'Preach with a View' in a church in Ebbw Vale. It was a bitterly cold time and he got the worst of it both in his lodgings and the chilly church (Ha! Ha!) while I had a warm couple of days at the Wrekin!

A move into Wales did not materialize and we had another two and a half years before moving to Friary church in West Bridgford, Nottingham.

We all grew up a lot in Nottingham: Helen went off to Wentworth Milton Mount School; James went off to Silcoates and Fiona the local junior school and eventually became the scourge of Wentworth! William was buzzing around like a busy bee – on

that committee and that board, all with a thriving and growing church to nurture. With the help of 'au pairs' for the children, I went back to college to get my teaching certificate.

Another nearly seven years and we arrived here in Worthing. You have all contributed to the memories since 1974!

In April, I was sent a huge bouquet of flowers for my birthday. Two weeks later I had to dispose of them as they faded, drooped and disintegrated. I was very sad, as they had given me so much joy and pleasure with their beautiful shapes, colours and fragrance. However, in the way the bright and fragrant memory of the flowers remains with me, so do memories.

Now, lighting up the hall, there is a vase of tulips, a bunch sent from the church. Each time I pass and plod in and out of the rooms and up and down the stairs, I see those flowers and they give a sense of love and calm, alongside the memories of the friends in the church.

Oh, dear, there is a lot to do, but before I succumb to the insistent demands of domesticity, I shall go down the garden for a few minutes and walk among the Forget-Me-Nots while they are still there.

*Mary Connelly, May 2013.*

## THE THREE PEAKS

It's that time again – well for me anyway – to celebrate my birthday this year I am going to test myself. I, with my long suffering husband, are going to climb the three peaks; Ben Nevis, Scarpa Fell, and Snowdon. Not I hasten to add - on the same day - or even 3 days but we will take one day's break between each climb!!

I shall make the trip worthwhile by asking for sponsorship for charity; the first being the Worthing Mencap Café, "Buddy's". Buddys is a cafe, drop-in centre and information hub in the Broadwater area of Worthing. It is a social enterprise set up and run by Worthing Mencap to benefit people with learning disabilities and their families, friends and supporters. I would also like to support a second charity and will let you know more when I have the information. Watch the Welcome!!

It would be lovely if you felt moved to support me in this way and I will be making sponsor forms available, although any gift would be much appreciated.

Thank you and keep watch for more news about this madcap scheme. By the way I am training on the downs with my dog everyday who looks at me as if to say 'I am not going up there again today' but he always follows!

*Caroline Hibbs*

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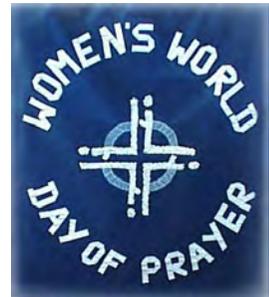
*Women's World Day of Prayer*

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## WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

As the United Reformed Church representative to the National Committee of the Women's World Day of Prayer movement, one of my obligations is to write an annual report for the General Assembly Book of Reports. This is published at every General Assembly, which now takes place two yearly, the next being in 2014. Some of our church members

and friends were able to be present at the most recent celebration last March and I thought that you and others might be interested to read of our connection to THE United Reformed Church.



## **2013 Report for the General Assembly Book of Reports**

1.1 I was a stranger and you welcomed me was the theme that became close to our hearts as we celebrated the annual Women's World Day of Prayer (WWDP) service in March. Written and prepared by Christian women of France, we were challenged to consider our own standpoint and our actions towards strangers and to remember that in the words of the Talmud: there are no strangers; there are only women and men who have not yet met.

1.2 From the outset the service emphasised the importance of welcoming others into our midst, symbolised by the colours of the graphic. The reds and yellows are symbols of warmth and acceptance, while the grey gives the impression of being left out in the cold.

1.3 Bible verses from Leviticus 19 reminded us that we should love the stranger as ourselves. The verses were interspersed with Life Stories of women who had not received a warm welcome in France, and were followed by prayers for forgiveness for any ways in which we may have caused hurt to those who turned to us for refuge.

1.4 The New Testament message from Matthew 25:31-40 made it clear that whenever we welcomed a stranger it is God himself we are welcoming.

Positive experiences of women who had come from other countries to live in France were shared. In prayers of intercession we committed ourselves to reaching out to strangers and to give thanks for the richness and diversity that those coming from other countries offer to society.

Following my visit to the World Day of Prayer International Meeting in New York I am now able to pass on the new themes and writing countries for another six years (following on from 2014: EGYPT – Streams in the desert,

and 2015: THE BAHAMAS – Do you know what I have done to you?)

2016: CUBA – Receive Children, Receive Me

2017: PHILIPPINES – Am I Being Unfair to You?

2018: SURINAME – All God's Creation is Very Good!

2019: SLOVENIA – Come – Everything is Ready

2020: ZIMBABWE – Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk

2021: VANUATU – Build on a Strong Foundation

It will be very interesting to learn more about these lesser-known countries and to hear of their hopes and concerns.

*Eileen Rhodes*

## From Anna Cooper - Servants Vancouver Team

**It was lovely to see so many of you when I was back in England, and to be reminded of just how much support I have back home, and how many people there are praying for me.**

It was very encouraging: If I didn't manage to see you this time, Jason and I will be back again in December.

We got engaged while we were in England - on Highdown Hill. 'Will you marry me?' - of course I said, "yes!" We're getting married in Vancouver on the 7th September, and we will have a UK celebration in December.

We were able to travel about a little when we were in the UK, visiting Coventry and London for weekends and a number of other towns more local to Worthing to see the sights! My brother had prepared a 'Quest!' around London which took us to 221b Baker Street, the BBC, and the Natural History Museum, among other places, and we were also able to go and visit the Servants Team in Southall.

The evening before we flew out, a Sound of Music Sing Along evening was held at Queen Street. It was a wonderful evening, and I want to say a big thank

you to all the people involved in organising it.

Despite leaving on the Sunday, we arrived in Jakarta around lunchtime on the Monday, and by the time we arrived at the slum where the couple we were staying with were, it was mid-afternoon, and were invited to play 'duck duck goose' by the kids pretty much right away! A and Y live on the outskirts of Jakarta, in an area that is a growing community of people who have had to move from where they were living before to make way for development. At the moment there is a lot of green space for the kids to run about and play in, flying kites and playing football, and it was great to see them out playing! A and Y teach 2 classes to kids a day, pre-school children in the morning and school age children in the afternoon, and we observed the lessons. I can now count a little in Indonesian, meaning that I could recognise the numbers as they called the flights at the airport!

One of the biggest issues for the children who live in the slum is malnutrition. A lot of the kids are smaller than they should be for their age.

One of the girls who I played with a lot while we were there was four or five, but her hand was just about the width of my palm, and I have quite small hands. When I was studying archaeology, I remember briefly learning about how malnutrition showed up in bones, but to see it in living, breathing children was hard. Everything was different. Climate, day length, food, language, showering, the toilet. It took a couple of days to sink in, along with the fact that I didn't have a function. I couldn't help the children in the lessons, because I couldn't understand them and they couldn't understand me. I was also still pretty jet-lagged so I kept dosing off in the afternoon. By the 2nd day we were there I was really struggling. Our hosts suggested that we went to the Mall, ate some Western food and went to the cinema. It actually helped a great deal! Just to be somewhere a little more familiar, and to eat something that wasn't rice or spicy (pizza!) The film actually turned out to be in French as it was an Asterix and Obelix film, but it had English and Indonesian subtitles, and was very funny.

A, the wife of the couple we were staying with has been in hospital recently with Dengue fever, and although she is on the mend, it can be a slow process. Please keep her and her family in your prayers. From Jakarta, it was on to Bangkok, in

Thailand. Jason has some friends, Ivan and Kashmira, who are with YWAM in the Old City of Bangkok, and had been in communication with them about meeting up while we were there. While we were in Jakarta, he received an email saying that they felt that they should offer for one of us to stay with them on their sofa bed, at least for the night we arrived. I ended up staying with them the whole time we were in Bangkok, while Jason stayed in a guest house about a 15 min walk away.

Ivan and Kashmira (and their two kids, who became very fond of us!) were wonderful hosts, letting us tag along with what they were up to, going to the zoo (I got to feed a giraffe!), to church (it was Palm Sunday, and we were given real palm branches to wave during the worship), out to eat, and we even helped pack up food parcels for a healthcare outreach to people with TB. They were also great for giving suggestions for things for us to do too, so we got to do some of the more touristy things like go on a river boat cruise and to some of the temples.

We also went to MBK, which is a huge Mall (I'm only saying Mall because that's what they're called there) which is actually like a cross between a shopping centre and a market, so while some floors have separate shops, others had

many smaller retailers with market-like stalls next to each other. The technology floor was quite overwhelming, there were laptops and tablets and phones and phone accessories everywhere your eye rested. We walked around it quickly, and then left that floor because it was just too much. I did see a Buddhist monk buying an iPhone, which was quite a strange sight. The food court was pretty overwhelming too, as there was so much choice, and I had no idea what most of it was! I stuck with pho, which is a Vietnamese noodle soup, as I know what it is, and know that it isn't spicy!

On the whole, food wasn't as much of an issue as I thought it might be. My spice tolerance did increase over the trip, and if something was spicy I just ate more rice with it. I also really came to appreciate fruit, and how refreshing it is! I ate a lot of mango, watermelon, pineapple and papaya. And tiny bananas. I did not realise that there are other types of bananas, so I was surprised to see how small they were!

It turned out that Ivan and Kashmira were heading to Pattaya (where Forum was being held) on the same day that we were, so we were able to travel with them, on a bus that left from just up the road from where they lived. They were hoping to attend the conference that followed on from Forum, but timing

meant that they couldn't, so they ended up coming to Forum instead, and we kept bumping into them around the conference centre. I am so, so, so thankful that we were able to connect with them, and that they were so accommodating. It was great to be able to stay with them after staying in Jakarta. I found it reassuring, to see that while they aren't living in a slum (and knowing that I couldn't cope with that at the moment), they are still loving the people who need love in their neighbourhood, and bringing good news to their corner of Bangkok.

It was so good to see so many people at Forum, to put faces to email addresses, and to catch up with people who had been through Vancouver at various times. It was also great to share the news of our engagement with people who we have known for a while who won't be able to make it to the wedding. As Forum was over Easter, we journeyed through the crucifixion and resurrection together, which was a very powerful experience.

Throughout this journey, I feel like I have really experienced the wider family that comes with being a Christian. Wherever we have been, there have been people who have welcomed us with open arms, given us places to sleep, fed us, advised us, supported us and prayed for us.

Some people I have known all my life, and others I met for the first time when I turned up at their door. I am truly grateful to God for this amazing worldwide family he has brought me into. The journey back to Vancouver felt like the longest one. We had a 6 hour stopover in Shanghai. The airport isn't very exciting, and the seats aren't very comfy (I tried sleeping on one, and it was ok, until I decided to turn over and rolled off in slow motion hit my forehead on the underside of the seat and ended up on the floor, much to the amusement of my fellow passengers!) We arrived back safely, and I was able to renew my visa for the next two years. Thank you for your prayers!

It is good to be back. I think Jason and I both felt that after we had been in Bangkok for a few days we were ready to go back to Vancouver, even though we hadn't even got to Forum yet, and that was the main reason for the whole trip!

I have been back at work for about a month now, finishing up last year, starting this year and heading towards preparing the Charity Return. This caused me an awful lot of stress last year, so I am relieved that we have found a friendly accountant who is willing to help me! Please join me in thanking God for this!

Things aren't the same as when we left though. Our church is having a time of discernment, so part of that was not having services. That meant that Jason and I went to visit some other churches in the area. It was good to see what other churches are up to, but it also meant that I hadn't been to the same church for 2 weeks in a row since February. We're hoping to find a small group outside of the Downtown Eastside, as pretty much everything else that we do is in the DTES. I feel it is also important for me, as almost all of the people I know in Canada live here too!

I've also been realising how much has changed in the Servants Vancouver team in the two years that I have been here. There has been a very small number of people who have been here consistently, and a large turnover of people who have either just been passing through, or long term people who have moved on to other things. It's caught me a little by surprise, even though the transition has always been part of life here.

Prayer points: Praise for our trip! - for wedding and life planning! - for us as we search for a small group, and for our church as we discern together what Sundays will look like.

Thank you for keeping me in your thoughts and prayers.

*Anna Cooper*

## Articles for The CHRONICLE - Autumn edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by either of the following ways –

1. E-Mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)
2. or by post to Graham Redman  
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for Autumn Chronicle articles is 1 August 2013

### ARCHIVED MAGAZINES

The CHRONICLE is now available on line from the very first issue in 1944 to the present day.

All files are fully searchable using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

If you do not have a computer and would like something looked up in an old Chronicle, please speak to Graham Redman 01903 260568.

[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

Login, click on Publications then Archives

Solution to Crossword on Page 15



## Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times

### Publication Team :-

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Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

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Telephone 01903 260568

5 Salvington Hill, Worthing. BN13 3AT  
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The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas (address above). Thank you.

The CHRONICLE

[www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online)

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)





Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

*We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all*



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

The

# CHRONICLE

Autumn 2013

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Harvest Festival  
22 September



- and Festival of Light 29 October - 1 November

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We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— We share a minister with St Andrew's, Rustington —

*Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 4EA*

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## Worship in the Church Sanctuary

### Sundays

- 8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- 10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.  
- Family service monthly as announced  
- Junior Church with Crèche
- 6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

### Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room

# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 70 - No. 635 Autumn 2013

## Front Cover

Photo taken early in August of a field of ripening wheat in High Salvington.

## Articles for The CHRONICLE

Closing date for the Winter CHRONICLE magazine is 1 November 2013

[www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online/](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online/)

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## Being Part of History – the Maker's Mark

**PEOPLE** are being invited to become part of history by making their personal mark on Gloucester Cathedral. A major £250,000 project to repair the Cathedral's leaky south aisle roof has recently begun and people can sign the new roof tiles. Those willing can make a donation of £10 to write their name on the reverse of a tile.

I remember back to the house where we used to live. It was built in the 1780's and some of the bricks in one of the walls were recycled Tudor handmade bricks. If you looked closely you could see hand marks and even finger prints. The brick makers are long gone and anonymous but they left their makers marks that have lasted some 500 years. That leads me to think of the ultimate creator and how He has left His mark on His creation. In Scripture we are told He has styled Himself as the Great Potter and we as His clay (Romans 9:21, Isaiah 29:16).

Any maker, whether he or she be an architect, painter, sculptor, potter, metal smith or jeweller; will usually leave their mark upon their precious creations. Their seal or stamp or signature assures people of its authenticity, worth and quality.

There is a series on TV called '*Four Rooms*'.



People bring their treasured items to sell to a team of top antique and art dealers. One of the most frequently asked questions by the dealers is "what is the provenance of the item?" When we know for certain who made an object it can tell us a lot about its value. A valuable and very fine oil painting can

be authenticated by the artist's signature and if the painting lacks such an identifying mark, then it is usually worthless. We search for those identifying marks to know the artist.

The Lord wants us to know that He is the Creator of all things. All we have to do is look for His maker's mark.

When one discovers the mark it certainly becomes proof that there is a God. However one problem arises when people mistakenly revere the created thing rather than the Creator who is 'so worthy of our adoration' Romans 1.



The opening chapter of the Bible begins with these words, **"In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."** This summarizes the drama that was about to unfold.

We learn from the text that the earth was formless, empty, and dark, and God's Spirit moved over the waters preparing to perform God's creative Word. And then God began to speak into existence His creation.

God was very pleased with His creation. Six times throughout the process of

creating, God stops, observes His handiwork and says, "It was very good." This is a great time to remind ourselves that we are part of God's creation. Even when you don't feel worthy of His pleasure, remember that God made you and is pleased with you. You are of great worth to Him.

We bear the ultimate makers mark for we are made in His image.

*Andrew Sellwood*

## Mary Connelly

Rev. W. Connelly and family would like to thank the minister, elders and members of the congregation for the celebration of the sixtieth anniversary of his ordination and induction into Ebenezer Congregational Church, Uppermill, on the edge of Saddleworth Moors on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1953.

The minister, in his sermon on August 4<sup>th</sup> spoke of being pulled in all directions and needing management. Over those sixty years, oh, how we were pulled and how we managed – or didn't, as the case may be!

Looking back, one wonders how one *did* manage in face of the many difficulties that beset the family in the lean times. However, there are always stumbling blocks and further difficulties for everyone, even in the more affluent areas such as Goring.

And now, with the inevitability of passing time, the words of Shakespeare's 'Seven Ages of Man' are becoming particularly apt. You may remember in my last article, I wrote of the birth of our daughter, Fiona. She is now a grandmother and we are great-grandparents.

There is no real way in which to baby-proof our house against the ten month old baby boy, who can move on hands and knees as fast as I can run and is inquisitive to the Nth degree, examining everything in close detail with fingers and mouth. The processes of his mind are often evident, as is the internalization of the knowledge learned through the exploration of his environment. He is making good and rapid progress in all ways. The sixth and

seventh ages are also well under way for some of us, at approximately the same rate of 'progress'!

As you get older, you come to understand how other members of your family felt when you and your young family turned up for a few weeks in the summer – and other such things. While in Cornwall, Fiona and husband, James and his wife and Charlotte and Theo the baby, have been to the graveyard at Carnmenellis, where my parents are buried, and put flowers on the grave in loving remembrance of the many happy holidays spent with them and the influence they had on their lives.



For Fiona, her Cornish grandparents remain her constant travelling companions, guiding her through life. They remain compasses showing the way along twisting paths and challenging terrain. As far as her life has taken her, she goes nowhere without their faithful love, support and guidance. Their influence and the shining light of their faith have never dimmed despite their physical absence.

# Skating

4 Festival of Light at Goring URC  
BN12 4EA (opposite Leisure Centre)  
29th Oct - 1st Nov 2013



Skating Times:

Tues - Thurs 10am - 5pm, Fri 2pm - 9pm

Entry FREE,  
Skating from £2.50

01903 600260

[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)



[www.wkds.org](http://www.wkds.org)

## How can we care for one another at Goring URC

Jesus said "Love one another as I have loved you" St John Chapter 15 verse 12

There are many ways in which we can show our love for one another, and here at Goring URC we have several resources which can help:-

**We can pray:** How do I know who needs my prayers?

### The Prayer Book

Please make use of the **prayer book** in the little chapel, situated just to the left of the pulpit. In this place of quietness take time to read and record prayers of thanksgiving and prayers of intercession. You are welcome to share joys and sorrows in prayer through the means of this little book.



**Something on your mind? The Minister** or a **pastoral elder** will hear you in confidence, and if you would like, will pray with you and/or for you. If you are unable to get to church please ask for a visit. The names of the pastoral elders are listed in the church handbook. If you would like one of these please speak to Graham Redman.

**We can take part in the ministry of flowers:** How?

The flowers that have been part of our worship on Sunday are taken out with a greeting from church friends to those who were unable to join us. They are often taken to sick friends or those with something special to celebrate.

Would you like to **pay for the flowers** some times, either as a gift, or as a memorial or thanksgiving?

Maybe you could **arrange the flowers** for Sunday worship? - then please get in touch with Carol Webber

Do you have a car, and would you be able to use it to **distribute flowers** occasionally? Please let me know.

**We can visit those who are stuck indoors:**

Perhaps you are available to visit people who are unable to get out, to have a little chat, do a little shopping, or offer a lift in your car. Please let me know .



### **The Book of Remembrance**

The Book of Remembrance is in the Little Chapel. If you would like the name of a loved one recorded here, please let me have the details ~ name and date of death is sufficient.

If you would like help through pastoral care, or have a gift to offer in the care of others, then please speak with me as soon as possible.

*Hilary Redman, Pastoral Secretary.*

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## **Pulpit supply -**

As most of you know – well – those of you to whom it means something; I am sadly resigning from helping Wilfred with Pulpit Supply, having done the job for nine years.

It has been a great privilege to have worked with all you wonderful folk who have so happily and willingly taken part in the Sunday Services doing the readings that the various Ministers and Preachers have requested, and I thank everyone of you wholeheartedly. You made it all so easy for me

I will miss the rapport that I have built up over the years with the visiting Ministers and with you – the readers, but I know I will be leaving you in safe hands as our good friend Marianne Barber has kindly agreed to take my place. I thank her so much and wish her every success in what she is about to do, and I am sure you will support her in the same way you have supported me.

Last but by no means least; I would like to extend my very warm thanks to Wilfred for his help and friendship over these past nine years. I hope I can safely say (without boasting) that we made a very good team!!!

*Doreen Norris*

# The Ark



## End of Term at the Ark - Summer 2013

The "Team" left to right: Brian - Door keeper, Wilma - leader elect, Donna - support staff, Margaret - refreshments, Graham - support staff, Hilary - retiring leader, Andrew - minister GURC, Denise - refreshments. Unfortunately Carole - sticky table was away.

On this day the adults who attend the Ark kindly presented Hilary and Margaret with bunches of beautiful flowers, as they both retire from the Ark team this year. Happily Wilma will lead the team from September. Brian on the door, Donna support staff, Denise and Carole refreshments.

The cupboard and the toys have had a spring clean. The carpets have been vacuumed. It remains only to replace the batteries in the toys and put the clothes back on the dolls.

Some of the children pictured, right, will be starting school in September, and some will be going to pre-schools like Little Fishes, but it is expected that many of the little ones will return.

The registration form for West Sussex County Council has been completed for 2013-2014, giving adults with children access to our details. This is only one of the ways that we become known, besides personal recommendation, there are websites:- [www.netmums.com](http://www.netmums.com) and our own — [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk). We also have a mention in the ABC magazine.

Word goes round, and mums and dads, grand parents, aunties and uncles, carers and nannies soon get to know that they can have a good time at the Ark. As we close for the summer we expect a new baby to be born soon, and we look forward to meeting him/her in due course.

Easter 2014 marks the 25th anniversary of the Ark's opening. Take time to reflect on this outreach

started by the faith and foresight of church members in 1989, and the numbers of adults with children who have passed through these halls.

Pray that they may remember that The Ark was a safe and Christian place for them to relax and play, and give thanks for those who have found Jesus here.

Thank you to all who have remembered The Ark and it's staff in your prayers over the years. Without them The Ark would have floundered long ago. Please continue to hold the Ark in your prayers

Please pray for Wilma and her team as they embark on a new chapter in the life of the Ark in this place.

*Hilary Redman*



# Tuesday Fellowship

At the last session, before we closed for our long Summer break we had a visit from Val Gill and her friend Mavis who played some songs on their accordians.

They were very good and they chose some nice songs for us to sing. We had song sheets for us to follow the words, and as there were some songs I didn't know and I found it helpful, but there were some that I did know. It was a lovely afternoon.

Next we had our AGM, and once we had finished our business we had a lot of discussion about how things were after the war when I was a baby. I was taking it all in when Peggy remembered I am younger than some of the others and drew me into the conversation.

The thing that I found perhaps odd was the use of powdered egg. I found that hard to imagine but my Dad remembers it, and rationing with coupons.

I loved to hear all about it and I know my Mum would have told me lots of things. A lovely afternoon.

Next we had another visit from our good friend Tony Trevithick. He took us on our journey from Penzance to Paddington. On this journey we went from Newton Abbot to Teignmouth.

It was bombed 21 times.

The Plymouth bridge was built as a short cut. Tony likened it to the short cuts we make in life to things like success. We were reminded that we are rich in Christ.

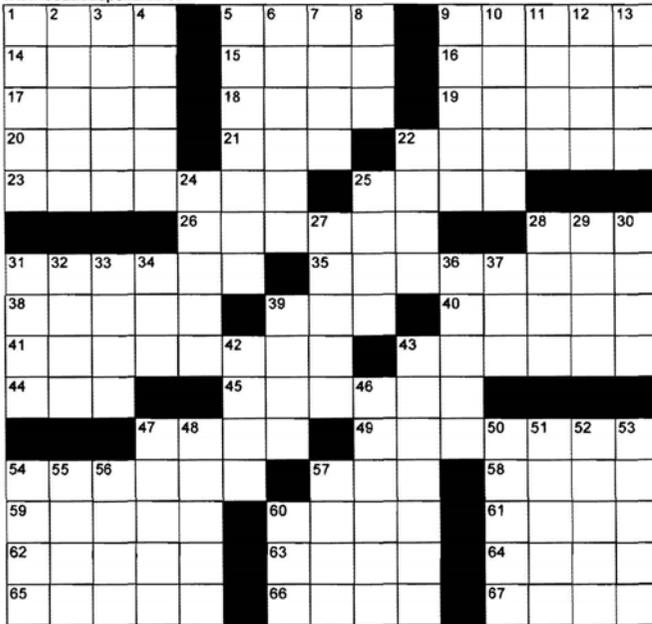
Now, I have never heard of this next thing that I will tell you about - I found it unbelievable when Tony told us — his daughter went to a wedding and at this wedding people took drugs quite openly. It is called Social Drug Addiction. The mind boggles! Next we went to Dawlish. The Station there is on the beach. In 1979 half of it was submerged. Tony went on to remind us that we have storms in our life. A good afternoon Tony. Thank you.

We finished the session with Bobby's annual garden party. We played a game that we had played before. It began with a question, and the answer began with a picked letter of the alphabet. For example: a book beginning with B? and Bobby gave a clue, 'the best book' and of course the answer was the Bible.

That is it until September 11th and if you would be able to join us then you will receive a warm welcome. I will carry on telling you what goes on at Tuesday Fellowship.

*Janet Dean*

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**ACROSS**

1. Slender
5. Light tan
9. Actress \_\_\_\_ Winfrey
14. Walk in water
15. Nays
16. Cease-fire
17. Revise
18. Group of three
19. Hair coloring
20. Medicinal herb
21. Rural hotel
22. Inferior
23. Go back over
25. Televises
26. Memorizes
28. To and \_\_\_\_
31. Gave back
35. Involved
38. Knowing
39. Park or Madison (abbr.)
40. Wake up
41. Love song
43. Articles of faith
44. FDR's successor
45. Cowboy bar
47. Article
49. Extreme
54. Insignificant matters
57. Fuss
58. Money
59. Long-legged bird
60. Prophecy
61. Reign
62. Worship
63. Robin's abode
64. Orangutans
65. Stage awards
66. Wise about
67. Annoying person

**DOWN**

1. Curse
2. Large spoon
3. Dolt
4. Parking timer
5. Tempted
6. Eye part
7. Harness strap
8. GI's club
9. Different
10. Printing machine
11. Baseball scores
12. Teen skin problem
13. Listen to
22. Shopping aid
24. E.T., e.g.
25. Novelist \_\_\_\_ Rice
27. Make merry
28. Chimney part
29. Coffee break
30. Keats poems
31. Foolhardy
32. Flock females
33. Role
34. Right you \_\_\_\_!
36. Ring
37. Charged atom
39. Eve's mate
42. Adrift
43. The Raptors' city
46. Strangest
47. Off-white
48. Prongs
50. \_\_\_\_ metal
51. Brownish gray
52. Small landmasses
53. Trunk
54. "All \_\_\_\_ Jazz"
55. Decorate anew
56. Strong metal
57. So be it!
60. Singer Yoko \_\_\_\_

Solution - page 24



# Canada & Alaska



Hilary and Graham Redman had a wonderful time in Canada & Alaska last year.

Here is a small selection of some of the photographs taken.

It was great to meet up with Anna Cooper in Vancouver.

## Canada

1. Bow summit
2. Bow River, Banff
3. Athabasca River, Jasper
4. Geese at Jasper. 7am

## Alaska

5. Brown Bear cub, Haynes
6. Glacier Ice falling
7. Glacier Bay





## A Tin Church

The Isle of Arran lies off the West coast of Scotland. I've been going there for almost 70 years – family holidays, visits with friends and Scout Expeditions. My favourite part of Arran is the West Coast, which is quite remote and, even now, fairly quiet.

I stayed there last year in a cottage at Machrie with Jim and Lesley, my son and his wife. One day we were driving up the coast road to Lochranza and stopped by the shore for a while. I noticed a small corrugated building in a field on the other side of the road. There was a small gate and a Church of Scotland sign. I thought it might be interesting to see what it was and followed a grassy path across the field.

I discovered the door was unlocked so I went in and was surprised to find a lovely little church. There were proper pews, a communion table and a pulpit. Off to the side there was even a little vestry. There was a real atmosphere of worship in the place and it really felt that people must have worshipped here for many years.

We left our greetings in the visitors' book and went on our way. Later, when we had access to a computer, we discovered that this was one of the last 'Tin Churches' in remote parts of Scotland. Ours was a listed building and was certainly in good repair. We'll be back in Arran this summer and it is our intention to be in this church on the Sunday morning for the service. If we get there I'll report in the next issue of the Chronicle – watch this space.

*Bill Marshall*



Lochranza Church of Scotland

# LOUIS PICKLE

Louis Pickle opened his eyes looking forward to another busy day. He made a special noise to make sure his daddy knew he was awake and had his biggest smile ready for daddy in order to be taken inside his mummy and daddy's big warm cosy bed. Louis Pickle's main job, as well as eating, was to keep an eye on mummy.

Only last week he'd had to wake up 20 minutes after he'd been put to bed to make sure mummy was downstairs with daddy. Satisfied everything was under control this morning, Louis Pickle wondered how he could impress everyone today - the shop assistants in Marks and Spencer's and Tesco, the helpers at the clinic and the old ladies walking down the street. What clever thing could he do today?

Sneezing twice was quite clever he'd noticed, but hiccupping scarcely raised a smile, just a concerned 'oh dear', from his nan-nan when she was around. 'I'll have to think of something really clever today, Louis Pickle thought as his mummy lifted him up and took him to change his nappy.

While he was getting his nappy changed he looked at mummy and kicked his feet in the air. 'That is clever', said mummy. Louis Pickle did it again.

'That's ever so clever', said mummy. Louis Pickle was ever so pleased that he was so clever and he would be even cleverer when his nan-nan came to visit.

Louis Pickle smiled contentedly at his mummy and daddy, knowing that he, Louis Pickle, was the cleverest boy in the world.

*Marianne Barber*

## Mrs Sue Mitchell retires - after 18 Years in little Fishes

After 18 years of managing Little Fishes Playgroup Sue has retired.

We have counted 511 children listed in the registers over those years. There have been Leavers' Concerts and Nativities, sponsored Toddles, group photographs, Learning Journals and play. All of which have created some challenges, a certain amount of stress, but most of all happy memories.

We would all like to say a very big 'Thank you' to Sue.

Managing a playgroup involves a huge variety of responsibilities but Sue's final one was removing a dead rat from the car park before the children arrived and had a nature lesson! Thank you Sue.



Our first term without Sue began with a burglary which has encouraged us to fit CCTV cameras and an alarm in the premises.



Val, with one of Andy's owls.

Following that we have had a good term with the children including a visit from Andy with his owls, trips to the park, visits from an ice-cream van, planting, nurturing butterflies, playing with pasta, face painting and the usual nappy changing, wiping sticky fingers and faces, singing, dancing and having fun.

The register for September is already almost full and we look forward to the start of our new academic year with Elouise and Ricky at the helm supported by myself, Susanna and Susan.

*Val Gill*



Little Fishes Playroom

## In the Process of All Change



Anna Cooper

I have finally finished the charity return !!

It is such a relief that it is over and done with until next year. It turned out to be way more work that I was expecting as the financial statements that our spreadsheets produce do not fit the requirements for the Government, so I had to go through and pull out all the individual totals and then to generate new statements. Making it easier to generate the financial reports will be a task for later in the year. As it took way longer than I expected, it actually ended up being sent in a few days late, despite working weekends, full days and even a couple of 12 hour days on it.

It was not an enjoyable experience, and I really hope that next year I can get it done with less stress and way before the deadline.

I now have a calendar in the office that has all the things I need to do each month, like generate reports both monthly for Tom the team leader here and quarterly for George, the international accountant for Servants, pay the rent for our former office space and all the other deadlines I have put in place. I think having everything displayed visually will be helpful for me. In fact, I actually met my first self-imposed deadline of getting the report done on time for this month, so that felt like an achievement.

The next big thing that I have to continue with is swapping our bank account from one bank to another that charges less fees (banking in Canada is very expensive). This means paper work, forms and appointments for two different banks, and then swapping over all our recurring payments etc. I aim to have this completed by the end of August.

Unfortunately, because it took me so long to get the Charity Return completed, I missed out on an opportunity to go to Northern Alberta (the next province over) to take part in the Tar Sands Healing Walk. The Tar Sands are a large area where oil is trapped underground in sand, and to extract it takes the destruction of forest, and a lot of energy, water and chemicals, and produces by-products that are toxic. The Government of Canada is really pushing the expansion of the Tar Sands, with little regard for

the people who live nearby and the environmental impact it will have. The walk is a peaceful, prayerful event to pray for the restoration and healing of the land. Jason was able to take part in it, and described it as a powerful experience, both in seeing the destruction, and also being able to pray for the land. You can read his blog post [here](#).

Our original plan of attending Church inside the neighbourhood and a small group outside has been turned on its head. God's House of Many Faces are just meeting as small groups for the foreseeable future, so we have been attending Immanuel, an Anglican church that meets in a theatre on a Sunday morning.

We have been impressed with the diversity of the congregation, ranging from families to people we know from the Downtown Eastside to business people to students. And funnily enough, quite a few English people! We have been encouraged through the connections we have made so far, and also just by the stability of attending the same church for a few weeks in a row.

I had gone from the beginning of February right through to the end of May not attending the same church for two consecutive Sundays so it makes a nice change.

I was fortunate to be able to take a week of retreat in the middle of June. I really needed to just have some time to pause and rest before the summer picked up speed, to reflect on all that has happened so far this year, and all that is still to come. I went to Rivendell, a retreat centre on Bowen Island, an

hour bus ride and then a 20 minute ferry outside of Vancouver. It is a beautiful place, especially when the sky is clear and you can see the surrounding islands and mountains. It wasn't quite as restful as I had hoped because I had trouble sleeping, but it was still good to be away and out of the city. I went for a walk one day, and met a dog who decided that he wanted to pretend to be mine, walking a little behind or a little in front of me. This went on for 30-40 mins as I made my way back towards the retreat centre, causing some passers-by to glare at me because dogs should be on a lead on that path. It was quite funny, and got me thinking about companionship. God is with me, behind and before me, and I can choose to just pretend that he's not there (like I kind of did with the dog) and go about my life as I want, or I can actually interact with Him, and let Him walk alongside. I know what I'd like to do, and also what I usually end up doing, and they aren't often the same.

The other major thing that has happened over the last while is that I have moved house! I am now living in the apartment that Jason and I will live in when we are married. I'll live here by myself until mid-August, and then a couple of friends who are coming early for the wedding will arrive and stay with me for a few weeks, and then Jason moves in after the wedding. It's strange having so much space to myself! The flat is where the Servants team used to live before they got the houses, so it is exciting to be moving somewhere with a long history of hospitality. It is also a large step of faith for us. Jason's work as an urban farmer is seasonal, so being able to afford the rent in the

summer will be no problem, but in the winter it will be a different story.

The flat fronts onto Hasting Street, which is one of the main routes in and out of the Downtown Core of the city from the East, so it is super busy (and noisy!) during most of the day. There is also a fair amount of shouting. It comes in shorter bursts than where I lived before, but probably at least twice an evening there will be someone shouting something. Where I was living before it seemed that people liked to have rows in the car park in front of the building. In fact the night before I moved out of where I was living before,

I was woken up by shouting just before 5am. It was a couple, and the woman was accusing the guy of hitting her. I peeked out of the window, and there didn't seem to be anything other than shouting going on, so I laid back down. The next thing I heard was running of feet on the gravel, and a thud up against the wall and looking out the window again I saw the guy now had the girl pinned on the ground. The only thing I could think to do was to shout 'what are you doing?!' and he replied with 'It's ok, she's my girlfriend.' I didn't know what else I could do, it was early, I wasn't fully awake, and I hadn't seen anything, so I couldn't phone the police.

I just watched out the window until it seemed that they were calmer and then another neighbour shouted at them to move on. I laid back down, heard footsteps walking off, and tried to get back to sleep. After living here for two years I still can't say that I have any more clues of what to do in some situations than I did when I arrived.



Downtown Vancouver

Additional prayer points:

One of my neighbours who I see on my way to the office in the morning is waiting for a very serious transplant.

Please keep him in your prayers. I haven't seen him for a while. Praise God for the provision of housing, it is a real relief having somewhere to live.

We have managed to plan all the major details for our wedding, but there are still a huge number of smaller details that need to be taken care of. We have two amazing friends who are helping us plan, which is great! It also means that we can focus more on what comes after the big day, continuing to get to know each other and dreaming for the future. Please pray for us as we continue to discern what God has for us as a couple. Thank you for your continued prayers and support.

*Anna Cooper*

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## Ruth & Mamy's CHAT

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No. 62

from Congo-Brazzaville

July 2013



**Family time:**  
What a joy to travel from Brazzaville to Swansea, Wales, in April for the wedding of Ruth's brother Chris, and his radiant bride, Trish!

Here they are cutting their amazing wedding cake, which reflected different aspects of their lives (*Wales, steam trains, Greek Islands and Chris' bus company!*)



*Ruth's Mum, brother Mike & sister-in-law Pears*



Mamy enjoyed taking many photos of the happy event.

Little did we know that while we were celebrating in Wales, church leaders in Congo were making the decision to appoint Mamy to the position of **Principal of the fledgling Protestant University of Brazzaville!** The decision took effect in early May. Everyone seems pleased by the appointment, which is certainly an honour for Mamy, although it of course means new responsibilities and more administrative work.



**Please pray for Mamy in this new role**, as he seeks to build a solid staff team and enable the university to move forward in a good way. He hopes to still continue teaching some courses, which is really his 'first love'. The academic year finished at the end of June, and now is the time to start planning for the year ahead...

During July, Mamy travelled to both **Lubumbashi** in the south-eastern corner of DR Congo (for meetings concerning the distance Masters course in Organisational Leadership and Management which the university offers) and to **Cameroon** for meetings for leaders of theological institutions in Africa. We hope August will be more restful for him!



**Mamy with colleagues in Lubumbashi**

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See full size Newsletter and page 2 on our website or on the table at back of the church.

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## Twenty Seven Million Slaves in the World Now

About ten years ago I began writing a novel about sexual slavery and because I have a connection with your church, - a past member at Sompting United Reformed. I thought you would be interested in hearing about it.

The initial inspiration for the book came when I attended a lecture given by a Non Governmental Organization entitled ECPAT [End Child Prostitution and Trafficking] at a URC ladies day in Croydon some years ago. Up to that point I had not given the subject of sexual slavery much thought as I wrongly assumed that it might be a problem in other countries but not in

mine. I came away from that day angrier than I ever remember being before and desperately frustrated at not being able to do anything to address the problem practically apart from giving money.

It was born in on me over the next few weeks that one way of helping would be to write a novel describing what it might feel like to be taken from your home and made to work as a prostitute. My hope is that anyone who reads the book will travel down this pathway of empathy and so be moved in their turn to think of something creative they can do to help right this dreadful evil that inflicts every corner of our globe.

I also felt that in some respects an imaginary story would do the job of engaging the emotions of the reader better than a factual first person account, as in a novel it is possible to describe in a deeper way the effect of prostitution on a child's body and personality and also the repercussions on their families and friends. In addition the book tells the story of a young British couple which serves both to provide a positive storyline for the book and also to show the contrast between the normal expectations of the average woman and those in all societies who are enticed or sold into sexual slavery often because they are poor or deprived in some way.

The more people who understand this evil and do something about it, the better so I would be grateful if you could buy and read the book and then recommend it to your friends and family both here and abroad. In this way we can all join together to fight this evil.

If you have any contacts with people who run local magazines of any sort

who would be prepared to run an article about this book as a tool to raise awareness of this problem please send their contact details by email to [debvaren@gmail.com](mailto:debvaren@gmail.com).

We would also like to hear from you at this address.

It may help to point editors to my blog where further details of the project can be found. <http://debvaren.blogspot.co.uk>.

If you visit this blog you will also find various suggestions as to what you can do personally to help and also further background to some of the characters in the book. We would welcome your feedback.

ALL profits from the sale of the book go to four charities who are working to rescue such boys and girls, young men and women. Details of these charities are at the back of the book and they all provide further factual information. One shocking statistic- it is estimated that 20,000 young people are in slavery in Great Britain today.

Title: 'The Garden of Sparkling Delight'  
 Author: Deborah Varen  
 Blog: <http://debvaren.blogspot.co.uk>  
 Email: [debvaren@gmail.com](mailto:debvaren@gmail.com)  
 Availability: Worldwide from Amazon.

If after you have read the book you could write a positive review that would really help. Deborah Varen is a pen name which reflects the fact that many people have given and are giving their time and expertise to this project. Thank you so much.

## Articles for *The CHRONICLE* - Winter edition

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle by either of the following ways —

1. E-Mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)
2. or by post to Graham Redman  
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

The last day for Winter Chronicle articles is 1 November 2013

### ARCHIVED CHRONICLES

A reminder that *The CHRONICLE* magazine is available on line from the very first issue in 1944 to the present day.

All files are fully searchable using Adobe Acrobat Reader.

If you do not have a computer and would like something looked up in an old Chronicle, please speak to Graham Redman 01903 260568.

[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

Click on Publications / Archives

### Solution to Crossword on Page 11



### Closed Circuit Television Security

As well as CCTV cameras in the Little Fishes area, there are a number of cameras operating in and around the church premises.

### Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times
Bible Study Groups	Various times & days
Games	Alternate Monday Afternoons

### Publication Team :-

Proof Reading: Mrs Jane Bond and Mrs Denise Woods

Mailing Secretary & Treasurer: Mrs Susie Thomas

Please send any contributions towards the Chronicle and mailing cost to her at -  
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*The Chronicle costs approximately £1.50 each to produce. Whilst no charge is made for the magazine, the Church would be very grateful for any donations given to help towards its cost of production. There is a box provided for such purpose at the back of the church, or contributions may be made by post to Mrs Susie Thomas ( address above ). Thank you.*

**The CHRONICLE**

[www.thechronicle.org.uk](http://www.thechronicle.org.uk)

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)





## Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

*We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all*



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.

[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)



The  
**CHRONICLE**

Winter 2013/14



We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all

## GORING UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

— We share a minister with St Andrew's, Rustington —

*Shaftesbury Avenue, Goring by Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, BN12 4EA*

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Telephone: 01903 776226 E-Mail: [pantthomson@gmail.com](mailto:pantthomson@gmail.com)

## *Worship in the Church Sanctuary*

### Sundays

- 8.00am Prayer & Praise - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.
- 10.30am Morning Worship - with Holy Communion on first Sunday in month.  
- Family service monthly as announced  
- Junior Church with Crèche
- 6.00pm Evening Worship - with Holy Communion on third Sunday in month

### Mid-week

- 10.30am Bible Study on first Thursday in month in the Harris Room



# The CHRONICLE

Vol. 70 - No. 636 Winter 2013/14

## Front Cover

The cross is shining again after a couple of years of darkness.



Did you know that the idea of an illuminated cross shining from the church roof was suggested by one of our late members who commuted to London by train during the 1950s? Travelling south of Croydon one evening he had noticed, that a church in Coulesdon [see below left] had a cross on it's roof shining out for all to see. He went to the deacons' meeting here in Goring to suggest that a similar feature should be put on top of the new church which opened in Sept. 1961.



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## Darkness and Light

As I write this article there is a news story on the radio announcing that our power bills will soon be going up nearly 10%. There is also a warning of possible scheduled power cuts during the winter months. The lights and everything else will be going off – something to look forward to! Apparently we do not produce enough electricity for every one when they need so it will have to be rationed.



We celebrate the fact that technology has marched on since the Dark Age's from candles to eco efficient light bulbs; it is a shame the infrastructure to make it work for us has not kept pace.

So as a nation we will have to make a choice to invest in harnessing renewable power sources wind, wave or solar or build controversial nuclear reactors.

There is a real need to plan for the future of how we will meet the increasing demand for power. Whatever option is chosen it will not come cheap but it is an investment for the future, not our generation but the next one.

Currently In the UK it is estimated we waste 30% of domestic energy by leaving lights on, TV's on standby, poor home insulation, boiling too much water in our kettles etc. there is a long list. The ways of obtaining fuel and power have always been controversial. The latest issue is fracking, the process used to extract shale gas. We want to run all our domestic appliances and have warmth and light but we don't really want to know the real cost involved. We take things like electricity for granted we flick a switch and expect it to happen.

It seems the underlying issue is how we treat creation in general and how seriously we take our stewardship roll in particular. The more time goes by it becomes evident that humanity has a really careless attitude to our planet, almost at war with it.

We exploit its finite resources, spoil its looks, and deny others the benefit of its beauty and wonder.

You can see on Google earth how we have scared the surface by excavating huge open cast drift mines many miles across, we have destroyed the forests to graze cattle and secretly we go on to pollute the oceans with industrial waste. But the silent satellites orbiting our earth show us the images and embarrass us with the proof.



In the beginning God said let there be light and there was, this happened on the first day of creation. All the power was in God's hands and through his love all things were made and were given life and purpose. God was pleased with his creation, it was good. He even created us humans on the sixth day so we could enjoy it with Him, it was worth sharing. How we have let Him down, yet still He loves us. He still lets us live in the light. The whole aspect of light in our faith story is so important. Light was created on the first day but the sun, moon and stars that gave light were created on the fourth day. So light is fundamental to the creative process itself. Through scripture light is also a metaphor for many things – truth, life, knowledge and salvation. Jesus said of himself 'I am the light of the world' John writes describing Jesus (John 1:<sup>9</sup>) The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.



And <sup>9</sup>The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. It is good to know that even when we fail to keep the lights on God has an endless power supply and he gave us Jesus as a source of light in a very dark world. We also have the Bible, Psalm 119:105 *Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.* The word of God in scripture is a light unto our feet.

In other words it is there for our guidance through life. So as we enter this dark winter season don't get S.A.D. (seasonal affected disorder) let Jesus light up your life and the lives of others.

*Yours in His service Andrew*



# Christmas Services



## 4th Sunday in Advent :

Sunday 22 December at 10.30am. Rev Andrew Sellwood.

Sunday 22 December at 6.00pm. Carols by Candlelight

## Children's Nativity:

Christmas Eve at 5.30pm.

## Christmas Day:

Wednesday 25 December at 10.30am. Rev Andrew Sellwood.

## Epiphany:

Sunday 5 January at 10.30am. Mrs Hilary Redman



## A CHRISTMAS MENU

After attending Church one Sunday in advent, Peter, Hannah, Sam, Andrew, and Christine gathered together for a Christmas meal at a local restaurant.

The restaurant serves five course meals. Each person had the five courses with a choice of a starter, a salad, a main course, a desert course and a selection from the cheese board. The task you have now is to determine what each person ordered and had to eat at the restaurant.

### The Menu:

Starter:	Duck Pate, Prawn Cocktail, or Avocado Pear.
Salad Course:	Tomato, Italian, or Caesar Salad.
Main Course:	Roast Turkey, Rump Steak, or Chicken Breast.
Desert:	Christmas Pudding, Brandy Snaps, or Profiteroles.
Cheese Board:	Cheddar, Gorgonzola, or Goat's

### The Clues:-

- Two people had Rump Steak.
- Andrew had Chicken Breast.
- Only one person chose Goat's cheese.
- The only choice Peter and Hannah had in common was Gorgonzola.
- The only choice Andrew and Christine had in common was Christmas Pudding.
- The only choice Sam and Andrew had in common was Prawn Cocktail.
- The person who chose Tomato Salad and Roast Turkey had Profiteroles.
- Christine had Tomato Salad.
- Sam and Andrew did not have Cheddar cheese.
- Two people had Caesar Salad.
- The person who chose Duck Pate also chose Italian.
- Hannah and Christine did not choose Duck Pate.
- The people who chose Rump Steak had Christmas Pudding.
- The only choice Hannah and Sam had in common was Roast Turkey.

*Can't work it out? Then see what each person ate on page 28*

## Mrs Joan Burrage

Joan Burrage died at the end of October and a number of church members attended her funeral to say farewell to a dear friend, and give thanks for her long life of service to her Lord.

Joan worshipped at Goring for over thirty years. Over the years she was eager to involve herself in all the church activities, be it the Girl's and Boy's Brigades, and Kestro. She sang in the choir and served as President of the Women's Guild at a time when there were some forty members. At that time we would entertain members of visiting clubs and Joan was always ready to bake cakes and prepare sandwiches or pick strawberries for cream teas. What fun we had in the kitchen!

I was privileged to be Joan's elder for many years and, as many will know, she had great faith in the power of

prayer. After the Sunday morning service one would see Joan heading for the small chapel and the prayer book.

In Memory of  
**Joan May Burrage**  
 1919 ~ 2013



Worthing Crematorium  
 Thursday 31st October 2013

It was important for her to know who was sick or in need of special prayer for some reason.

Her prayer list extended not only for

church members, but also for their families and friends.

Many of us remember with gratitude her unfailing prayer support when most in need.

Lately it was a great sadness for Joan, when due to bad health, she was unable to attend Sunday morning worship but she never stopped caring and praying for the congregation of her beloved church.

Indeed every week Joan Finlay reported to her details of the subject of the service, the readings and the hymns.

For me - I have lost a dear friend, I shall miss her fun and laughter, to say nothing of the many hour-long telephone calls!!

Thank You Lord for bringing her into my life.

*Audrey Gerlach*

## Mrs Elsie Flack 1927 – 2013

It is with real sadness that we announce the death of Mrs Elsie Flack. She died on Sunday morning, 10<sup>th</sup> November, having been in Worthing hospital for three days. She was 86 years of age.

Her husband John, and then she herself were interim moderators for our church from 1991, during the two-year interregnum after Rev William Connelly retired.

It was my privilege to be Church Secretary before and during that time and Rev John and Elsie Flack were a very rich blessing to all of us and worked very hard in our church.

Elsie was a very gifted lady and I know only some of those gifts. She played the piano, organ and guitar and sang beautifully and frequently used these talents to the glory of God in church. She was a leading light in the Girls' Brigade, and was much involved in Women's World Day of Prayer.

*Wilfred Rhodes*

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### *Articles for the Spring edition of The CHRONICLE*

You can submit articles to the editor for inclusion in the Chronicle  
by either of the following ways —

1. E-Mail to [chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)
2. or by post to Graham Redman  
5 Salvington Hill, Worthing, West Sussex. BN13 3AT

**The last day for Spring Chronicle articles is 1 February 2014**

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Please help to save our printing costs by viewing *The Chronicle*  
if you can, on-line.      [www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online)

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# Festival of Light and Skating

29 October - 1 November

**A successful Outreach event !**

Not so good financially, but many came though our doors.





**Festival of Light during the Autumn Half Term**

Little Fishes reunited!

It is always lovely to catch up with our 'old' children. Val Gill



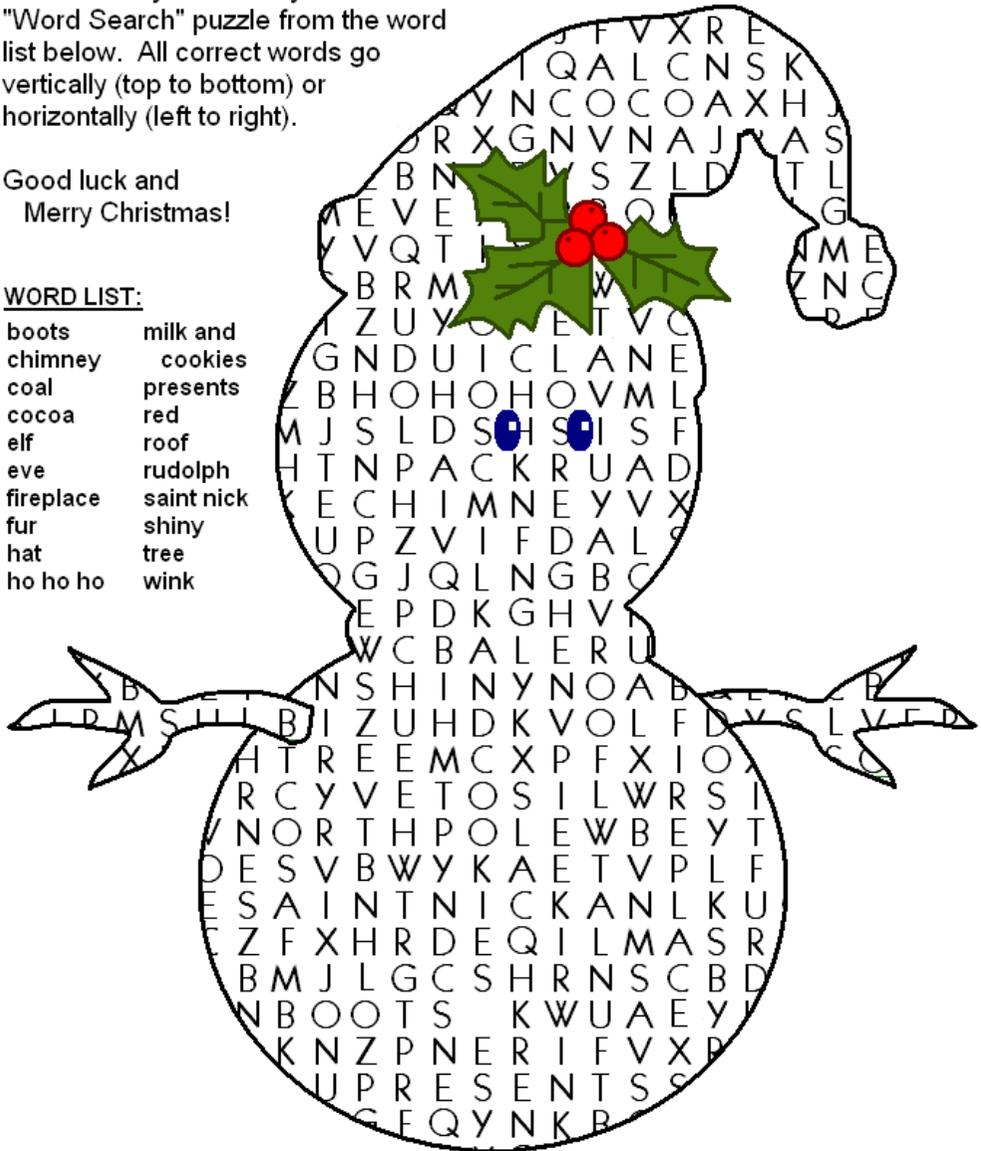
The words in this snowman puzzle describe someone who is loved by children the world over. Who is he?

Find as many words as you can in this "Word Search" puzzle from the word list below. All correct words go vertically (top to bottom) or horizontally (left to right).

Good luck and  
Merry Christmas!

**WORD LIST:**

boots	milk and
chimney	cookies
coal	presents
cocoa	red
elf	roof
eve	rudolph
fireplace	saint nick
fur	shiny
hat	tree
ho ho ho	wink





## Property Management Group

Now that a new heating system has been installed in the church we hope that everyone will be a lot more comfortable. The new heaters are much more efficient and more powerful than the old. Christopher Dunphy Ecclesiastical, responsible for the installation, have worked hard each day from before 7.30 in the morning to about 6 in the evening.

Phil Rodda who attends the group 'Voice for Disability' has kindly donated an hot water heater which has now been installed in the church kitchen. It has been bought with money collected in memory of his late wife Avril, who used to be "the chief tea-maker" for the group. The boiler will deliver about 60 cups of boiling water. It is for all of us to use.... but beware.... the water comes out boiling SO, please take care !! Thank you Phil for this very generous gift.

It is really good to see the cross light shining out from the roof again.

*Graham Redman*

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## Tuesday Fellowship

Well, we started in September with an afternoon of catching up with one another. Regular members gave in their subscriptions for the year. Although I was unable to attend I can imagine there was a lot of chat after the long Summer break. Carole kindly gave me a summary of three meetings which I had missed. Thank you! She described the first meeting as surprisingly varied and entertaining.

We then had a visit from my friends Geoffrey and Angela Runacres who did readings with music.

I was able to go to the next meeting when we had a visit from Beryl Chatfield who read some poems which she had written herself. The first poem was called 'Contrast'. After writing that one

she went on to write a further 30 poems in 40 years. Fifteen of these she had printed, but after that she decided to do the publishing herself. Beryl went on to read us two more. Then we went on a cruise with her, with a company called Mastersun which is a Christian company. First we called at Crete, then Turkey, Beirut, Cyprus and Patmos. As we were going along she read many more poems which reflected her thoughts on each stop. When we returned home she read another poem reflecting her thoughts on returning to good, wet and cold Britain. Beryl then read a few more poems ending with one about Christmas Eve. It was a nice afternoon and Beryl is a very talented lady, so thank you Beryl.

*Janet Dean*

## In August 2015, this Church will be celebrating its 75th Anniversary

Between now and the summer of 2015 *The* CHRONICLE will be printing highlights from the years since 1940.

### Starting now with 45 years ago in December 1968 -

Wallace Hayward was the minister

Eric Bond was joint Church Secretary with Mr Arthur Birch

Norman & Margaret Dobson rejoiced in the birth of their first grandson.

Collections were : loose cash - £79-4s-1d and envelopes £195-10s-0d

Girl's Brigade had a display on the 6th & 7th.

Women's Guild Working Party

Women's Guild Fellowship with Carols, readings and tea.

*The Spring Chronicle will feature - '50 yrs ago in 1964'*

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## EGYPT AND WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Does the media tell us all the facts we want to know? Did you know that 12% of Egypt's population are Christians,

'sincere and faithful to their God and in deep loyalty to their country Egypt'. The following article has been written by Pastor Gadalla Tiab, an Egyptian Christian, who is pastor of the Arabic Community Church in Hove. It describes his visit to Egypt in August this year. He came to speak to the recent WWDP West Sussex Preparation Day. It was a great bonus to have such first hand news, as next year's celebration service has been written by Egyptian Christian women with the theme 'Streams in the Desert'. As you read the article (and maybe cry over it) please pray for our Egyptian brothers and sisters.

*Eileen Rhodes*

## EGYPT AND WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

**Christians in Egypt live in catastrophe but still remain faithful and see repeated history of the first century of the early church.**

I travelled as usual for my annual holiday in Egypt; unfortunately, this year was like a nightmare for my family and me. On Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> of August, the Egyptian Government started to empty sits-in of the Islamists and pro- Morsi supporters (the disposed President). On the same day 72 churches were attacked and set on fire by the Muslim Brotherhood and extremist Morsi supporters. Moreover, many Christians were kicked out from their homes and shops, both were broken into and looted and set on fire. Hundreds were killed and thousands injured in attacks all across the country. How the brutality of the Muslim Brotherhood against helpless Christians was! This sectarian cruelty was to the extent that many Christians were forcedly exiled from their villages.



According to the instable situation, the government declared a state of emergency and imposed an eleven hour curfew. As a result, all churches across the country had their doors closed to worshippers for two weeks. On a personal level, the governmental resolutions paralysed all our holiday plans and ministry.



In spite of all of the troubles the Egyptian Christians faced they remained sincere and faithful to their God and in deep loyalty to their country Egypt. We can see that from one of the church statements that was written: "If the hands of evil come to Egypt to kill, burn, and ruin; the hand of the Lord is there to guard, strengthen, and rebuild. We put our faith in Divine support, and are confident that it will help Egypt along this critical period, and take her to a better tomorrow and to the bright future of peace, justice, and democracy which this noble Nile people deserve."

**Prayer is very important.....** Please pray for the comfort of the Holy Spirit for those who lost beloved ones, homes, churches or businesses. The Christians across the country would hold fast to Jesus and know His peace and protection.



Last but not least, the Arabic Community Church tried to do some relief in Egypt in giving 17 families some money, and giving 25 families mattresses and beds. Moreover, we established small projects to generate money for three of them.

Should anyone desire to help the support the brethren in Egypt please

email [pastorgadalla@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:pastorgadalla@yahoo.co.uk). [www.accbrighton.org.uk](http://www.accbrighton.org.uk)

Pastor Gadalla Tiab  
 The Arabic Community Church  
 Brighton and Hove



## A Tin Church - 2

Following my item in the Autumn Chronicle, I can now report that we did attend a service in the Tin Church. On a lovely day in August we motored up the coast road to Pirnmill (the church is in Pirnmill, there is a "proper church" in Loch Ranza). There were some cars parked by the shore and we were made welcome by a small group of local people but no minister.





However, just before the service was due to start, he rushed in. Apparently he had taken several services elsewhere and was going on to at least one more. It was a real Church of Scotland service; metrical psalms to start and well-known (to me) hymns. There was a small organ and that day they had

an organist but some Sundays they have to use recorded music. Coffee was served (from flasks) afterwards but the minister did not linger as he was off to Shiskine Church. We gave our friends greetings from Goring and they sent their best wishes to us.

*Bill Mashall*

## SNOW IN SUMMER

I remember that snow in summer,  
the flower growing untidily in deserted allotments  
beside hot orange nasturtiums with round saucer leaves  
and juicy stems; blue hooded lupins, furrowing bees,  
brilliant cornflowers with tiny buds  
and green-grey straggly leaves.

Now we have snow in winter turned to ice.  
People marooned and housebound  
frightened of falling,  
water their pot cyclamen and poinsettia.

Yet snow has brought silence and peace  
slowing down life, evoking memories of childhood:  
a cotton wool snowland on a sideboard  
with mirrored lake and plaster ornaments -  
an igloo, church, snowmen, several Santas,  
and stiff brush-like little trees set in a darkened room  
twinkling with silver lametta and tinsel -  
the smell of my father's pipe,  
a table where I laid out my presents  
of books and stationery.

The television is switched off.  
The hum of the freezer  
replaces the quiet pantry.  
Turn up the heating instead of poking the fire.  
No ticking wooden clock,  
no mantelpiece.

Outside the window  
the ice is still there.  
You can see silver tracks of cars  
coming from garages.

I make my cocoa,  
fill my hot water bottle;  
tomorrow will bring more memories,  
snow covering the old ones.

*Marianne Barber*

*© Copyright December 2013 Marianne Barber*

The following article was taken from the magazine of  
Whetstone United Reformed Church

## WE ARE SURVIVORS!

Strictly for those born before 1940!!

We were born before Television, before penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Photo Copiers, plastic, contact lenses, videos, Frisbees, and the Pill.

We were before radar, credit cards, split atoms, laser beams and ball point pens; before dish-washers, tumble driers, electric blankets, air conditioning, and before man walked on the moon.

We got married first and then lived together. We thought "fast food" was what you ate in Lent, a "Big Mac" was a large raincoat, and "crumpet" was what you had for tea. We existed before house husbands, computer dating, and when a "meaningful relationship" meant getting on with your cousins and "sheltered accommodation" was where you waited for a bus.

We were before day care centres, group homes and disposable nappies.. We had never heard of FM radio, CD players, computers, even electric typewriters, or artificial hearts, word processors, yoghurt and men wearing earrings. For us "time-sharing" meant togetherness, a "chip" was a piece of wood or fried potato, "hardware" meant nuts and bolts, and there just wasn't a word like 'software'.

Before 1940, "made in Japan" meant junk. Pizzas, burgers, instant coffee and tea-bags were unheard of. In our day, cigarette smoking was 'fashionable', "grass" was mown, coke was kept in the coal house, a joint was a piece of meat you had on Sundays and "pot" was something you cooked in.

We who were born before 1940 must be a hardy bunch when you think of the ways in which the world has changed and the adjustments we have had to make. No wonder we are so confused!

But by the Grace of God, we have survived! Alleluia!!

*Copied by Wilf Rhodes.*

# MAKING WAVES:

A Report of the afternoon meeting on September 14<sup>th</sup> 2013, organized by Nick White, Children & Youth Development officer for the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church.

This meeting was all about the safety and safeguarding of children and young people, but applied equally to vulnerable adults. And in one way or another we are all vulnerable.

Nick White spoke very well and very enthusiastically. He talked about premises security and safeguarding of children:-

- i Elders should adopt a definite policy.
- ii The written policy should be displayed publicly.
- iii This should be reviewed annually.
- iv Elders should ensure that all "workers" know how to implement the policy.

He provided a weekly planner to show how and where safeguarding practice needs to be implemented.

A Twins & Triplets, and a Sing & Sign group meets on our premises and Elders should check that they also have a policy, and should view it.

Formerly we had CRB certificates – Criminal Records Bureau. Now it's DBS – Disclosure and Barring Service. This is an update to CRB, but CRB is still accepted. DBS is 'portable', that is it can be used for more than one organization; but this portability is dependent on the person signing up to the update scheme on line.

Nick talked about 'risk assessment' and this is something we should be doing in formulating our policy. In the papers he supplied, was a sheet for our Risk Assessment Action Plan. It's

all common sense but most of us have a little bit of non – sense in our make up, don't we?

We do have a 'good practise guide' that we give to all who hire our halls but this should be reviewed and distributed more widely. Safeguarding is vital for the care and safety of all who come through our doors.

There are those who would harm and abuse us and we must protect ourselves or be protected from this harm.

On average at least 1 child a week dies in the UK following abuse and neglect. 50,000 children in the UK are known by Local Authorities to be at risk of abuse, but it's estimated that 1 million children suffer serious abuse or neglect. More than 1 in 5 children aged 11-17 who were physically hurt by a parent or adult,

and 1 in 3 who experienced contact sexual abuse by an adult did not tell anyone else about it at the time. And there were many more similar figures that Nick White gave to us. Up to 2% of the disclosures sent in by churches are returned 'blemished'.

So risk assessment, security, safety from accidents, fire safety etc., are all very important when we consider the numbers of people passing through our premises in a week. 1000 go through our doors in just the 4 days of our Festival – and that's 'outsiders' – not including all of us workers.

And don't forget transport of children and adults by parents and friends!

In dealing with children and young people there's always the possible need for parental consent to administer medicines, or taking them to the park, etc., though this does not really apply to us. Little Fishes have this very much under control. Eloise and Ricky have taken over very efficiently from Sue Mitchell.

People dealing with people need to know how to treat them – to touch or not to touch. How to approach a child or adult who is in distress of some sort, in pain, or upset or in tears. It's complicated!

Nick spoke in detail about child abuse but this also applies to adults – young or old.

So what is abuse?

- 1) A 4 years old child is locked in his room for an hour for wetting his bed.
- 2) A 12 years old is slapped hard by his parent
- 3) Parents decide not to let their under 5 child have toys because they like a tidy house.
- 4) A 13 years old boy is beaten with a belt for telling lies. Etc, etc.,

But after all that we must always take care in reading the signs. Some signs of apparent abuse may have completely innocent reasons.

You may think that this doesn't apply to us as a church, or to you – but it does. It applies to all of us. We do need to be aware, to take care, and to understand. If we have knowledge of what goes on around us we will understand the situation. And if we understand then we will have the wisdom to judge how we should react and how we can resolve a difficult situation.

Finally: Elders and the Minister must be notified of any and all concerns that anyone has about people and / or situations.

For helpers, carers, teachers, parents... see CEOP – Child Exploitation & Online Protection Centre at [www.thinkuknow.co.uk](http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk)

*Wilfred Rhodes*

# Goring Little Fishes Playgroup

We have 33 children on the register at the moment but this will increase in the New Year as others become old enough to attend or increase their sessions.

Wilma has joined Susanna as playgroup assistants. Both have brought a wealth of experience to the group and are well loved by the children.

One Saturday in November Elouise, Val & Gaynor (our Treasurer) spent the day at Brinsbury College near Pulborough for a Conference, attending various training sessions including Marketing, Free Entitlement, Acas, Pensions & the Law, Business Planning, Nutrition and Safeguarding. This job is more than playing with children!



The children have enjoyed a variety of themes including animals, trains and dinosaurs. We were fortunate to enjoy good weather on our visit to the model engineers at Field Place having two hours of fun riding around on the steam trains.

Wilma brought 'Tommy Tortoise' in to visit before being put to bed for the winter and that tied in beautifully to our Dinosaur theme. Interestingly one child was more frightened by a small

tortoise than a six-foot high inflatable Tyrannosaurus Rex!

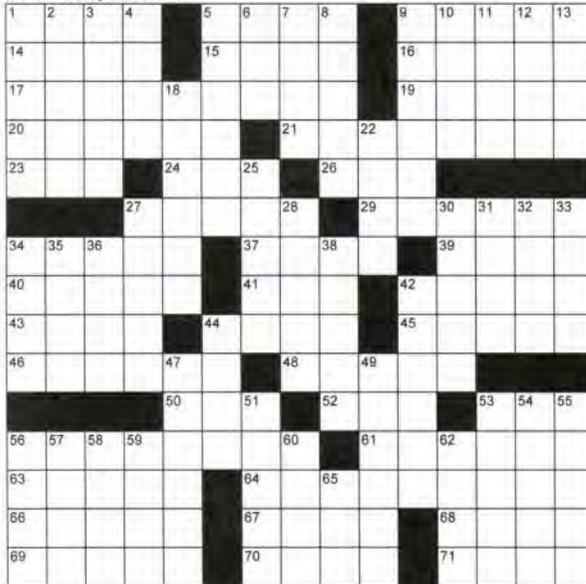
This half-term will be busy as we approach Christmas with lots of crafts, songs and a Nativity Concert for the children to perform to their families.

We would like to take this opportunity to say how we value all our Committee members, thank you.

*Val Gill*



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## DOWN

1. Ill will
2. Woody or Tim
3. Festive events
4. Needle openings
5. Gotten up
6. Tennis stroke
7. \_\_\_\_ vault
8. Pipe parts
9. Showy flowers
10. Metal bars
11. Bright thought
12. Broil
13. Sacred
18. Zodiac sign
22. Words of understanding (2 wds.)
25. Storage spot
27. High-minded
28. Devastation
30. Pigment
31. Impersonator
32. Cushions
33. More
34. Brashness
35. Actor \_\_\_\_ Baldwin
36. Deceiver
38. Iron or lead
42. Stockholm's country
44. Break sharply
47. Showed feelings
49. Renter
51. Uprisings
53. Stable section
54. Viola's kin
55. Small bay
56. Canyon effect
57. Asian language
58. Satan's domain
59. Capri or Man
60. Once more
62. Citrus drinks
65. Baseball stat

## ACROSS

1. Wise person
5. Swiss mountains
9. From Dublin
14. Romp
15. Tooth part
16. Cowboys' contest
17. Unreadable
19. Best
20. Tantalizes
21. Ambassador
23. Printers' measures
24. \_\_\_\_ culpa
26. Compass pt.
27. Final inning, usually
29. Flee
34. Beauty parlor
37. Gentle
39. Colorful gem
40. Defendant's offering
41. " \_\_\_\_ Got Sixpence"
42. Toboggans
43. Embossed emblem
44. Highlander
45. Inferior
46. \_\_\_\_ door
48. Provide food
50. Spoil
52. Directed
53. Physics, e.g. (abbr.)
56. African country
61. Straighten up
63. Trunk
64. Everybody (3 wds.)
66. Actress \_\_\_\_ Berry
67. Shore bird
68. She, in Paris
69. Lubricated
70. Smack
71. Vegas machine

Solution on page 28

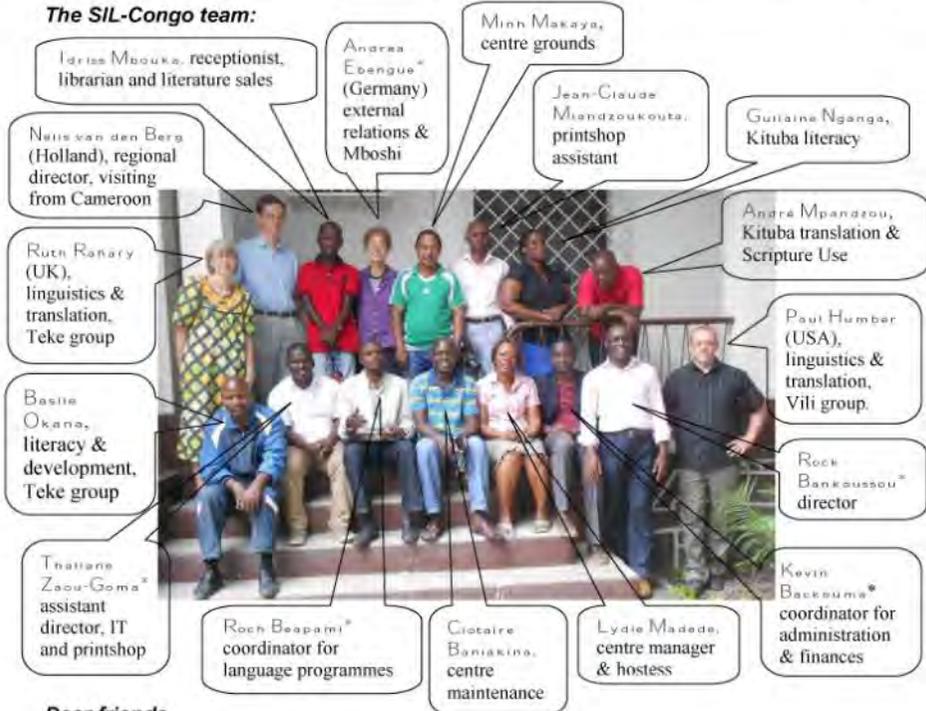
# Ruth & Mamy's CHAT

No. 63

from Congo-Brazzaville

November 2013

## The SIL-Congo team:



## Dear friends,

In January next year, it will be 20 years since Andrea Ebengue and I (Ruth) started working with SIL in Congo! We are of course part of a team, so I decided it was time to introduce you to the current team in Congo, with this photo taken at our recent annual meetings. The five people with asterisks after their name are our new leaders. Please pray for us, for good teamwork, despite our differences of opinion, temperament and cultural background!



Mamy is fully occupied as principal of the Protestant University of Brazzaville, and continues to teach Hebrew and Old Testament. Before the academic year started, he travelled to the neighbouring country of Gabon for the induction of a former student as pastor there. He also assisted in baptising some 30 people in the river! Here he is with three of the baptismal candidates.

## Some of the "ups and downs" of our jobs and lives:

- ☹ I have not completed work on the Teke-French dictionary as planned, since I have been heavily involved in the programme for new Bible translators for 5 different languages.
- ☺ The translation teams are continuing to learn a lot as they translate the life of Abraham, and we have found additional translators for SW Teke and Ngangulu.
- ☹ We have still not identified any translators for Plateaux Teke, after many years of trying.
- ☺ With the help of this Teke choir, we recorded songs to complement the audio recording of the story of Ruth, and this audio recording is now available on CD and SD card.
- ☺ Dutch linguist, Connie Kutsch Loyenga, will come to Brazzaville in December to work with me on complicated vowel and tone issues in the Teke group of languages.
- ☺ A Vice-principal and a General Secretary have been appointed to assist Mamy as Principal of the University.
- ☹ Work has stopped on the new library building at the University, due to lack of funds.
- ☺ Mamy is grateful for the efficient and supportive University board of trustees.
- ☹ I continue to suffer from insomnia and Mamy still works long hours at the University...
- ☺ We are making arrangements to take a week's holiday at the coast over New Year!
- ☺ We are blessed to have YOU, our friends and support team, standing behind us!



***"We know that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true."*** (1 John 5 v20)

We send you our warm greetings as we go into another Christmas season!

***Ruth & Mamy***

### **Mamy & Ruth Raharimanantsoa**

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Folk&Språk in Sweden (info@folk.se).



**An outing to the Congo River with friends**



2<sup>nd</sup> December 2013

Dear Friends,

As Moderator I spend a lot of my time journeying – usually in the car dashing [carefully of course!] from one meeting to another, one encounter to another, managing to pick the children up and drop them off at their required destination.



And I'm not complaining – I quite enjoy my journeying time in the car.

Recently I listened with great interest to a radio interview with Michael Palin, that most intrepid of journey-makers as he talked with great excitement about his various journeys over the years and the people he encountered along the way. His enthusiasm was so great that it inspired me to share that journey with him from the comfort of my armchair by digging out the old dvds! It was exhausting!

There were times when the path ahead seemed impossible to climb. There were times when he seemed totally exhausted. There were times of great rejoicing and times of real darkness as the road ahead seemed endless. There were times of great personal cost.

As I write to you this Advent, I am minded of the journeys of some of the key characters in the Christmas story. Yesterday I led an all-age act of worship based on Isaiah's journey as he discovered that beyond the uncertainties of today there are things of which we can be certain tomorrow – because of one tiny baby the world was changed. Advent is a season for thinking about the future. It's a time for placing all our insecurities into the context of God's eternal purposes.

As I think particularly of those for whom the future is unknown, I pray especially for the church as we struggle with the uncertainties of being God's people amidst a world that thinks in terms of certainty. The season of Advent can be one of the busiest times of the year for ministers as I know all too well. In the run-up to Christmas, which seems to begin earlier each year, the pace of activity can become unbearable. I wanted to take this opportunity to thank you for all you are doing locally and for the wider church and to say that, if there is anything I can do to help, please do let me know.

I will continue to pray for you that you may be strengthened and encouraged in the journey we are called to make and may you sense the excitement and the realisation of your part in the task of God's eternal purpose.

Russell, Cameron and Ross join me in wishing you  
the gladness of Christmas, which is hope;  
the spirit of Christmas, which is peace  
and the heart of Christmas, which is love.

*Nicola*



# Do you have a Computer?

## No? - please read on:

You have probably noticed that our electronic world is racing away, and are inclined to think, "Why do we need all this, after all we have always managed very well before?" Almost every day we see something on the television, or in an advert in newspapers or magazines referring us to a 'www' or whatever! The Church cannot afford to get left behind in this new world of electronics. So this Church, here in Goring, like many others has its own website, and many items of useful information are available there for us and for our visitors.

If you do not own a computer you can visit the local library and see our website by typing [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk) into the address bar - Ask a librarian if you don't know what to do, or ask somebody you know with a computer to show you [www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)

## Yes? - then keep up to date:

Many items of interest are constantly being added to our site and it is being updated on a regular basis.

Some of the items added since the beginning of November are,

- A What's New Section
- Church meeting minutes and agendas.
- The Church Handbook & Directory — a password is required for this.
- Leaflets about this church, membership, baptism, marriage, funerals.
- URC News Updates • The Preaching Plan • Property updates.

Always available :- Recordings of Sunday morning sermons with the current Welcome sheets and Bible readings for the day. These have been on our site since January 2013..

For some time now The Chronicle has also been available on-line. It would significantly reduce our printing costs if more people were to read it and/or print it off from our website. The Handbook is constantly being amended, and is therefore always up to date.

## Password ?

Finally, are you worried about a password? There is no need to! The Handbook is only available to those who have a password. This ensures confidentiality. If you do not have a password but would like one, then please speak to Ryan or me

*Graham Redman*



# Fire !

**November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2013.**

Over the years I have written a series of articles about Crete for the Chronicle, articles about: Fabian, the cockerel and the rescued poultry; the Carob or locust bean trees, the olive harvest; the harvesting and treading of the grapes; the winemaking and the raki making; about the charcoal burner and the bell maker; the view from Exopoli; about Lent and the Greek Easter, Pentecost and St. Georges' Day.

Oh, yes, St. Georges' Day – the day when the shepherds take their sheep to church to be blessed by the priest. They were brought in their droves to the church from their usual roaming grazing under the olive trees and sprinkled with holy water, then led under the archway of sacred vestments, followed by their shepherds, who were also blessed.

Those same sheep were the ones that wandered up and down the mountain and along the sides of the road, bells tinkling. They grazed on the grass and fragrant herbs, watched over by their shepherd. When they had cropped one area clean, he moved them on to fresh pastures. Late afternoon, the milking had to be done by hand, in the confines of the sheepfold. One by one, they were milked and moved back out into the fold. At night, they were allowed a limited freedom to roam within a large walled area on the mountain and as they

moved up and down, one behind another, their bells tinkled like a mountain stream.

Sometimes in the daytime, the shepherd would have other farming duties to perform and they would have to be confined within some large or smaller area of stony walls for their own safety. These Cretan sheep are not like the fat, docile, woolly ones we know; they are more like mountain goats. (Separating the sheep from the goats is not as easy as you might think). They can get to places you would think impossible, leaping over stony heights to get to more succulent food on the other side, perhaps tasty grape vines, or they reach upwards to eat leaves on the lower branches of trees, keeping on until they get the very last yearned-for leaf.

Today, the view from Exopoli was different. People were not looking to the picturesque mountain and sea view; they were looking down the road towards Kalamitsi, watching a fire devastate their fields and olive groves. The distance between Exopolis and the Kalamitsi Road is about the same as between the Goring Road and the Mulberry shopping areas. Helen's house is just a little more than half way between them. Today, a fire broke out about the same distance as the traffic lights at the bottom of Shaftesbury Avenue.

It seems someone was foolish enough to light a bonfire on a windy day, with everything tinder dry.

Yesterday, we were in touch with Helen, congratulating her on the part she played at the Remembrance Ceremony

at the Cemetery at Souda Bay and sending recipes for Cornish saffron buns; today we were in touch with her as the fire engines raced to quell the fire that threatened their land and home.

Facebook is a wonderful tool, used properly, and we were able to get news on the situation from time to time. However, there is no substitute for hearing the voice and it was a great relief when the phone rang and Helen spoke to reassure us that the fire was being brought under control and that the wind had changed direction away from their house, but towards the village of Exopolis. They were ready to unleash the dogs to run free and to open the rabbit cages and the hen run for the animals to save themselves. She had her essential papers and passport in her handbag ready to move should the situation change and the house be threatened. A gusty day, the wind was capricious, frequently changing direction to make the fire fighting more difficult

Olive trees, becoming rich with oil at this time of year, burned furiously; oranges and lemons stood not a chance, and grape vines soon charred, withered and died.

For Antonis, the shepherd, it was not the safety of his house that concerned him, that was far enough into the village to be fairly safe, unless the wind drove the fire more quickly towards the village. His concern was not so great for his vines or his olive trees. His concern was for his sheep, the flock that he had taken out for their morning grazing, seeking the best areas along the road, in and out among the olive, mulberry and carob trees, doing the usual round until he brought them back to the large

walled area where they could stay until feeding and milking time.

Cut off by the fire, Antonis could not tell if his sheep were alive or dead. At one point, it seemed more than likely that they had perished in the fire, unable to escape. For several hours, no one knew what had happened to them.

After several hours, the fire was brought under control and extinguished. Many people lost their livelihoods – their vines, their olives, and green crops. The agile sheep, on the other hand, with a more pressing motive than for food, found strength enough to leap or to scramble their way to safety.

### November 13<sup>th</sup>.

The scenes of devastation always seem worse when it concerns you, your family, or close friends, even just acquaintances. We somehow become less sympathetic as we see much worse calamities one after another on television from all parts of the world. Instant news does not necessarily bring instant response. Down in Cornwall, in Falmouth, Philippino sailors from a ship in the docks were anxiously trying to telephone home to find out how their families were and getting no reply at all. How long will it be before they will know the best or the worst news?

How long will it be before war, genocide and famine cease?

In the meantime, our own domestic problems that seemed too much to bear, diminish in the face of other people's anguish.



Continued from page 27 —

In Crete, the love and support of local communities give succour for some and hope to others. In a country now famous for its heavy taxes and diminishing pensions, it is hard to keep head above water financially. The suicide rate has risen dramatically as some people see no way of managing their lives.

But all is not doom and gloom. There are already plans for the proceeds from the next tabletop sale at the Taverna to be put to help some of the farmers and other ideas for help are being put forward.

The sheep are back in the care of their shepherd and tinkling their way among the unburnt trees and along the still edible verges.

Lord, engender in us the strength that we need to cope with our own difficulties and to give love and sympathetic help to others.

*J. Mary Connelly*

Solution to Crossword on Page 21



The Christmas Menu  
Page 5

- Christine**
1. Avocado Pear
  2. Tomato Salad
  3. Rump Steak
  4. Christmas Pudding
  5. Cheddar Cheese

- Andrew**
1. Prawn Cocktail
  2. Caesar Salad
  3. Chicken Breast
  4. Christmas Pudding
  5. Gorgonzola Cheese

- Sam**
1. Prawn Cocktail
  2. Tomato Salad
  3. Roast Turkey
  4. Profiteroles
  5. Goat's Cheese

- Hannah**
1. Avocado Pear
  2. Caesar Salad
  3. Roast Turkey
  4. Brandy Snaps
  5. Gorgonzola Cheese

- Peter**
1. Duck Pate
  2. Italian Salad
  3. Rump Steak
  4. Christmas Pudding
  5. Gorgonzola Cheese

## Weekday Activities

Messy Church	1st Monday Afternoon in month
Tuesday Fellowship	2nd and 4th Tuesday Afternoons
The Ark for Adults with Babies & Toddlers	Thursday Mornings. School Term times
Kestro (Stroke Club)	Friday Afternoons
Little Fishes Play Group	Monday-Friday. School Term times

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The CHRONICLE

[www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online](http://www.gurc.org.uk/chronicle-online)

[chronicle@gurc.org.uk](mailto:chronicle@gurc.org.uk)





## Goring United Reformed Church

Goring United Reformed Church is part of the United Reformed Church in the United Kingdom. In May 2005 a Joint Pastorate was formed with St Andrew's United Reformed Church in Rustington, with whom we share Ministry.

The United Reformed Church has over 1600 churches in England, Scotland and Wales with a total membership of about 76000. It was formed in 1972 when the Presbyterian Church of England and the Congregational Church of England and Wales united, and it was joined by the Reformed Association of Churches of Christ in Great Britain and Ireland in 1981 and the Congregational Union of Scotland in 2000.

Goring and St Andrew's are part of the Southern Synod of the United Reformed Church whose affairs are governed by the General Assembly.

It was early in the 1930s that Worthing Congregational Church in Shelley Road began planning to build a new church in the rapidly growing area to the west of Worthing. The present building was opened in September 1961 when the congregation became too large to be accommodated in the church building that is now the hall. This first building was opened in 1948.

Goring URC is part of Churches Together For Worthing, and Christians Together in Goring, with whom we often join for worship. The other churches in Goring with whom we share the Christian faith are English Martyrs Roman Catholic Church, St Mary, St Laurence & St Richard Churches of England, the New Life Baptist Church and Bury Drive Methodist Church.

*We are here to worship God and proclaim the love of Jesus Christ to all*



Goring United Reformed Church, Worthing, West Sussex.  
[www.gurc.org.uk](http://www.gurc.org.uk)